TUESDAY
December 5, 2023

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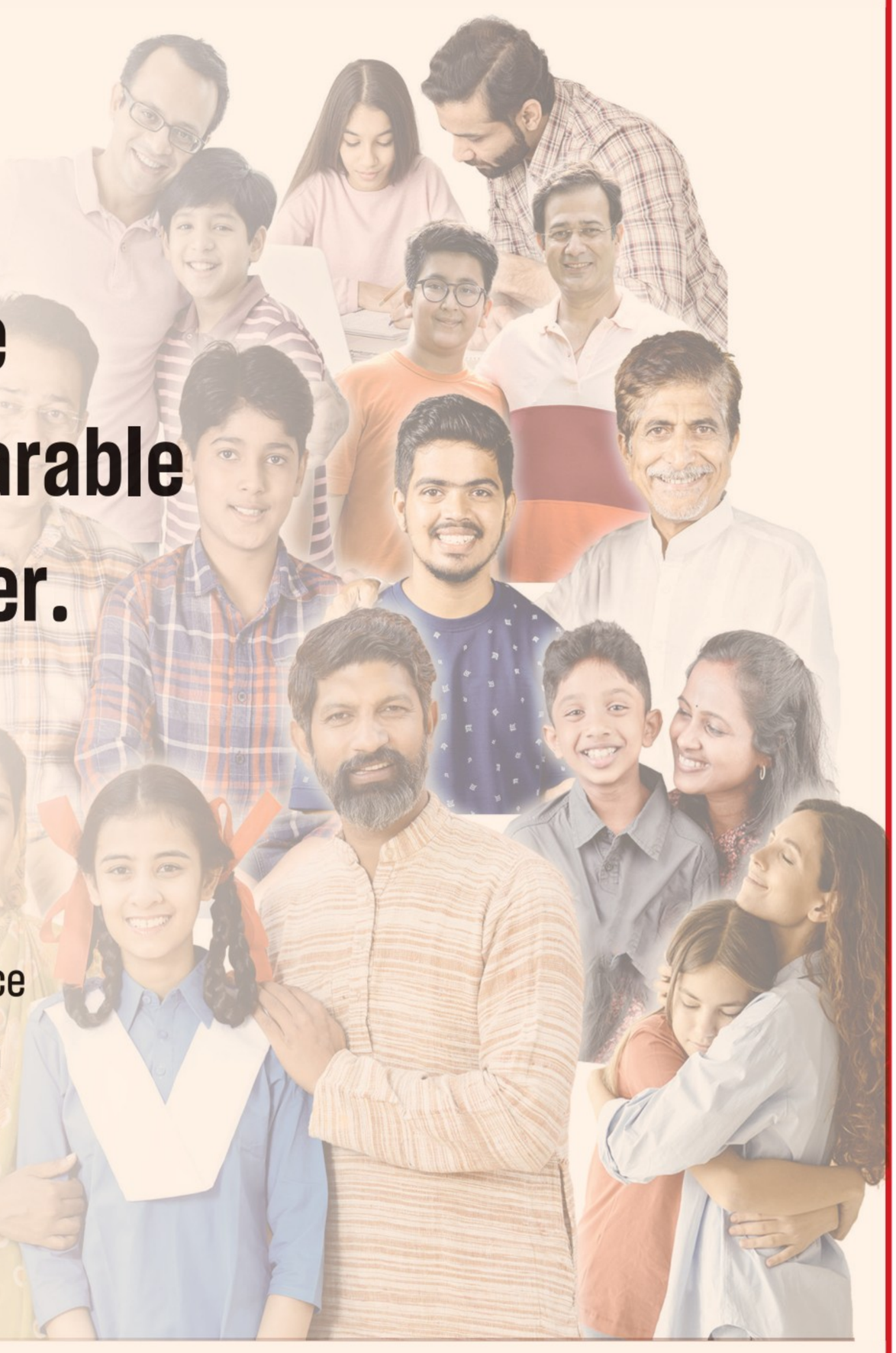
Parents



Your ignorance may cause stress, tension, and irreparable injury to your child's career.

In the interest of your child's future, please read the contents of these pages completely with deep attention. You love your child, isn't it ?

As a **First Step,** you need to understand the significance of a proper diagnostic test before starting preparation for any competitive or scholastic exam.

1. **Knowing Current Academic Capabilities -** You & your child need to discover your child's current academic capabilities especially aptitude, comprehension skills, analysing capability, general IQ & IQ specific to the career choice.

2. **Knowing Academic Inclination for a Stream -** No one career is for every child. It is important for you & your child to discover his / her subject-wise aptitude at an early stage, so that correct stream is chosen in class XI to prepare earnestly for a successful career in the chosen stream.

3. **Discovery through Scientifically Designed Tests -** All the above can't be done through just any test. A child needs scientific testing that also has a pattern similar to various prominent National Level competitive & scholastic exams.

4. **Realising National Level Academic Standing -** Career dreams can't be realised without knowing where you stand in the competition. Practically all career defining competitive exams as well as top scholastic exams are conducted at the National Level. Whether a child is choosing Engineering, or Medicine, or Pure Sciences, Law, CA, Fashion, Business et. al., he / she needs to know his / her National Level Standing (Success Potential / Rank Potential Index) for the relevant exams at the earliest possible but not later than end of class X. Though it is better done late than the actual exam day.

The **Second Step** is Discovering the road to optimum success - After all the analysis, you & your child need to know what needs to be done for unravelling his / her total potential (manifested & hidden). This is the most crucial step. It needs to be done carefully. Your child will be happy working hard, with this clarity rather than feel stressed or even depressed. It is evident that Students' training must start with proper analysis of their potential & after making of a comprehensive plan to achieve the goals. This can be best done with the assistance of an honest, sincere, and dedicated expert or institution.

For Further Steps please turn over...

Education that Inspires & Transforms...

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J BG-BGE

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Winds of change in Telangana

Cong. regains support, BJP on the rise

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SCOTTIE'S DAY OUT

Scheffler wins Hero World Challenge

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NEARBY

PSI examination postponed by a month: Minister

BELAGAVI
Amidst demand to postpone the recruitment examination for the post of police sub-inspectors, Home Minister G. Parameshwara announced that it would be postponed by a month. » PAGE 4

Yatnal threatens to boycott BJP LP meeting

BELAGAVI
Simmering discontentment in BJP over recent appointments showed up on the opening day of the winter session as BJP leader Basanagouda Patil Yatnal threatened to boycott the BJP legislature party meet expressing disappointment over the "injustice to North Karnataka in appointments to posts". » PAGE 4

Bengaluru saw most cases of cybercrime among metros in 2022

BENGALURU
Bengaluru has again topped the list in cybercrimes registered across all metro cities in India in 2022. The city has topped the chart of cybercrimes cases for several years now. » PAGE 3

Cyclone-triggered rain brings Chennai to a halt, claims 6 lives

Many areas cut off and over 9,600 people moved to relief camps as the storm revives memories of the devastating 2015 floods; airport closed till 9 a.m. today, nearly 300 flights cancelled; Southern Railway cancels many long-distance trains

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Pounded by relentless rain under the impact of Cyclone Michaung, Chennai and its neighbouring districts were marooned on Monday, reviving haunting memories of the December 2015 floods. Six persons were killed in cyclone-related incidents in the city, police said.

The Chennai airport shut down its airfield for arrival and departure operations till 9 a.m. on Tuesday. Nearly 300 flights were cancelled and more than 1,500 passengers stranded.

Southern Railway cancelled many long-haul trains and trains coming to the city were terminated at Chengalpattu, causing inconvenience to hundreds of passengers.

Waterbodies were brimming and the release of surplus water from the reservoirs challenged the city's infrastructure.

Life came to a standstill as power supply was suspended as precautionary measure since late on Sunday night. Over 9,600 people from northern coastal districts were moved to 236 relief camps in eight places.

The Army and the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) aided State agencies, including the Fire and Rescue Services and police personnel, in the relief and rescue operations.

Under water: The G.P. Road junction on the arterial Anna Salai inundated in heavy downpour in Chennai on Monday. S.R. RAGHUNATHAN

Shah offers help

Union Home Minister Amit Shah called Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on the telephone to get a briefing on the situation and offered all help from the Centre. Mr. Stalin sought deployment of additional NDRF personnel to deal with the calamity. He deputed 13 Ministers to oversee relief and rescue operations, besides deploying more senior IAS officers on the field.

The government declared a holiday for educational institutions on Tuesday and advised private companies to permit employees to work from home.

CONTINUED ON
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Michaung landfall in A.P. expected today

The Hindu Bureau
VIJAYAWADA

The cyclonic storm Michaung over Bay of Bengal off south Andhra Pradesh intensified into a 'severe cyclonic storm' on Monday afternoon, the India Meteorological Department said in a release on Monday evening. It is likely to cross the Andhra Pradesh coast between Nellore and Machilipatnam, during forenoon on Tuesday.

FULL REPORT
» PAGE 7

New regime

The Zoram People's Movement (ZPM) won Mizoram Assembly polls by bagging 27 seats in the 40-member House

Party	Seats won	Vote share
Zoram People's Movement	27	37.9%
Mizo National Front	10	35.1%
Bharatiya Janata Party	2	5.1%
Indian National Congress	1	20.8%

Lalduhoma, ZPM's CM candidate. PTI

ZPM comfortably wins Mizoram in single-party show

Rahul Karmakar
GUWAHATI

A regional party led by a former Indian Police Service (IPS) officer has wrested power from the Mizo National Front (MNF), an ally of the BJP at the Centre, in Mizoram.

The Zoram People's Movement (ZPM) won 27 seats, six more than the majority mark in the 40-member Mizoram Assembly, on Monday. The outcome negated predictions that the elections held on November 7 would be multi-cornered with the Congress and the BJP in the picture.

Led by Lalduhoma, an ex-IPS officer who was in charge of the security of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in 1982, the ZPM virtually made it a single-party show with the MNF bagging 10 seats, half of them by slender margins.

Outgoing Chief Minister and President of MNF Zoramthanga lost in Aizawl East-I to newcomer Lalthasanga by 2,101 votes. "We tried our best despite facing several challenges. We accept the people's verdict," Mr. Zoramthanga said after the result. He met Governor Hari Babu Kambhampati in the afternoon to tender his resignation as the Chief Minister.

Mr. Lalduhoma, who was the first MP and also the first MLA in Mizoram to be disqualified under the anti-defection law, said the election result was expected given the groundswell of support from the people, who were desperate for a change. He is expected to meet the Governor on Tuesday and stake claim to form the government. "The challenge now is to live up to the expectations of the people" he told presspersons after winning the Serchhip constituency comfortably.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 11

Don't vent your anger over poll defeat in Parliament, Modi tells Opposition

Nistula Hebbar
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday urged the Opposition not to vent its frustration over the defeat in the Assembly elections in three States in Parliament.

Making his customary remarks to the press on the first day of the Winter Session of Parliament, Mr. Modi said such a course of action would be counterproductive to the Opposition and harmful for the country.

"The country has rejected negativity. We always have dialogue with Opposition friends at the start of session, we always seek cooperation of everyone," he said.

Narendra Modi

'Learn from this'

"Instead of making plans for venting frustration over defeat, they should learn from this defeat, leaving behind the habit of negativity of the past nine years. If they move forward with positivity this session, the country will change its perspective towards them. A new door could open for them," Mr. Modi said. "They are in the Opposition but still I am giving them good advice."

"I say on the basis of my experience, I would say change your [Opposition] direction a bit, leave the habit of opposing for the sake of opposing. Support constructive things that are in country's interest, debate the shortcomings and you will see that the hatred among the people over such things, that may change into love," Mr. Modi said.

Elephant Arjuna dies in attack by wild tusker

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA

Sixty-four-year-old Arjuna, the elephant that carried the golden howdah during the Mysuru Dasara procession till 2019, died in a fight with a wild elephant during an operation to capture a wild tusker near Yeslur in Sakleshpur on Monday.

The Forest Department had been conducting the operation to capture troublesome tuskers in the Sakleshpur, Alur, Belur, and Yeslur ranges of Hassan. During the operation, a wild tusker attacked Arjuna. Arjuna succumbed to the injuries he suffered in the stomach, according to preliminary reports.

Operation halted

The incident forced the department to stop the operation.

Arjuna carried the 750-kg howdah during the Dasara procession eight times until 2019 when he turned 60. Besides that, the animal participated in many elephant capture operations.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 7

After Telangana win, Cong. keeps suspense over CM; Kharge to take final call

R. Ravikanth Reddy
HYDERABAD

The Congress high command is yet to take a decision on finalising the Congress Legislature Party leader in Telangana, keeping the State and millions of Congress voters on edge after the party romped home with a comfortable majority in the Assembly election.

Though the name of Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee president A. Revanth Reddy was on everyone's mind and he is considered the natural choice, the party high command was undecided after the CLP meeting on Monday morning and authorised Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge to take a final decision on its behalf. AICC observer and Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and other observers held hectic parleys with the chief ministerial aspirants and the MLAs to finalise the name of the majority choice. The individual opinion of the MLAs was also taken and a report was sent to the party high command for clearance. Initially, it was expected that the decision would come by evening and the swearing-in ceremony would be held at Raj Bhavan at night.

But later in the evening, the party high command asked Mr. Shivakumar and other observers to reach New Delhi for further consultations. Now the ball is in the court of the AICC headquarters and the decision might come on Tuesday or Wednesday.

A senior functionary of the Congress in New Delhi told *The Hindu* that this is the normal practice in the Congress. The AICC observers send a report to the high command and they in turn ask them to brief on various issues concerned with it.

Congress leaders D. K. Shivakumar and Manikrao Thakre after the CLP meeting in Hyderabad on Monday. G. N. RAO

'Delay normal'

It is not just the selection of the Chief Minister but also his team and whether there should be any Deputy Chief Minister as well. So there is nothing much to read in the delay in announcement, he said recalling the Karnataka example. "They have already authorised the AICC president and he will take a call after consulting other senior functionaries including Ms. Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi," he said.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 11

No disruptions this time, INDIA bloc parties resolve; SP absent from meet

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The INDIA bloc parties resolved not to disrupt the proceedings of the Winter Session of Parliament, which is the penultimate session before the Lok Sabha election next year. The decision was taken at the customary morning meeting hosted by Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge at his office in Parliament on Monday.

The Samajwadi Party, which did not send any representative, was conspicuous in its absence. The Samajwadi Party's noticeable absence from the morning meeting raised a few eyebrows, coming on the heels of a very public spat between SP president Akhilesh Yadav and the Congress over the failure to reach a seat-sharing arrangement for the Madhya Pradesh Assembly elections. However, SP sources said this was not a deliberate move. The party's Rajya Sabha leader Ramgopal Yadav had a morning engagement and no one else could be deputed.

Mallikarjun Kharge

The bloc has also decided to strongly protest against any resolution moved by the government seeking to expel Trinamool Congress MP Mahua Moitra and demand a detailed debate on the issue. The Ethics Committee investigating the "cash-for-query" allegation, has recommended her expulsion.

STATE-SPECIFIC ISSUES
» PAGE 11

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Number of FIRs on crime against women in India in 2022

4.45 in lakh. About 51 cases were registered every hour across India in 2022, up from 4.28 lakh in 2021 and 3.71 lakh in 2020, as per latest NCRB data. The rate of crime against women per lakh population stood at 66.4. PTI

The govt. permitted export of broken rice by the NCEL

8.98 in lakh tonnes. The National Cooperative Exports Ltd. (NCEL) has also been allowed to export five lakh tonnes of rice to Senegal and 50,000 tonnes to Gambia in six months. It can also export 34,736 tonnes of wheat. PTI

Average monthly GST mop-up so far this fiscal

1.66 in ₹ lakh crore. GST collection has been showing an upward trend on an annual basis since its roll-out on July 1, 2017, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman informed in reply to a question in the Lok Sabha. PTI

Number of murder cases registered in India in 2022

28,522 An average of 78 FIRs of killings were registered every day or more than three every hour across India, down from 29,272 in 2021 and 29,193 in 2020, according to the latest NCRB data. PTI

Share of voters who voted NOTA in Chhattisgarh election

1.26 in percentage. The counting of votes in M.P., Rajasthan and Telangana showed that less than 1% of voters exercised the 'none of the above' (NOTA) option in recent assembly polls. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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The need to transform agri-food systems

What did the report from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization say? How is favouring the cultivation of water-intensive cash crops like sugarcane and areca nut affecting the environment? How will diversification of crops help?

EXPLAINER

P. Srinivas Vasu
Karishma Shelar

The story so far:

A groundbreaking report from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), published earlier this month, has laid bare the staggering hidden costs of our global agri-food systems, surpassing an astonishing $10 trillion. In middle-income countries like India, these costs constitute nearly 11% of the GDP, which manifests as higher poverty, environmental harm, and health-related impacts, including undernourishment and unhealthy dietary patterns. The report blames "unsustainable business-as-usual activities and practices" for these escalating costs, pointing to a need to transform agri-food systems. One way to do so is to shift to multi-cropping systems that have the potential to protect farmers' well-being, improve nutritional outcomes for our communities, and positively impact ecological health.

What are the impacts of intensive agriculture?

Impressive improvements in agricultural productivity have been achieved in India over the last five decades by mainstreaming mono-cropping systems and chemical-intensive farming practices.

The Green Revolution focused on the marketing of high-yielding varieties of paddy and wheat on agricultural lands, which now constitute more than 70% of India's agricultural production. The infusion of seeds purchased from multinational corporations and fertilizers undermined seed sovereignty, dismantled Indigenous knowledge systems, and fuelled a shift from diverse crop varieties and staples such as pulses and millets to monoculture plantations. This trend also compromised the nutritional needs of households and resulted in adverse ecological consequences including excessive extraction of groundwater.

This privatisation and deregulation of agricultural inputs also increased indebtedness among agrarian households. In 2013, the debt to asset ratio of a farmer's household in India was 630% higher than in 1992. Agriculture in India has increasingly become unviable: the average monthly household income of a farming household sits at ₹10,816.

Which are the crops being favoured?

Under the National Food Security Act 2013, 65% of households (around 800 million people) in India are legally assured a right to food at subsidised rates through the Public Distribution System and welfare programmes such as the Integrated Child Development Services and the Mid-Day Meal Scheme.

To meet this requirement, the procurement of food crops is coordinated by the Food Corporation of India (FCI), which is required to maintain a central pool of buffer stock and to procure, transport, and store foodgrain stocks in the country. However, this procurement policy heavily favours rice and wheat. In 2019-2020, the FCI procured 341.32 lakh million tonnes (MT) of wheat and 514.27 lakh MT of rice. Whole wheat and rice also became export commodities. In contrast, the Indian government approved the procurement of a total of only 3.49 lakh MT of coarse grains such as jowar, bajra, ragi, maize, and barley by State governments for the central pool and local distribution, which is less than 1% of total foodgrain procurement. Not surprisingly, the area under cultivation of coarse grains dropped by 20% between 1966-1967 and 2017-2018, whereas the area under rice and wheat increased by nearly 20% and 56% respectively.

Different approach: A farmer spraying pesticides in a paddy field, in Kharak Singhwala, Mansa district in Punjab, on August 21. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

At the same time, other water-intensive cash crops like sugarcane and areca nut have also flourished under policies favouring investments in dams and canal irrigation (favourable for sugarcane) and free electricity for borewells (favourable for areca nut). This trend threatens food security and the production of nutritional crops. The expansion of sugarcane cultivation affects biodiversity, increases the pressure on groundwater resources, and contributes to air and water pollution. And ironically, small and marginal farmers in India are among the most food and nutrition insecure.

The global food system structure has a direct impact on the last mile – on both farmers and soil. Between 2012 and 2016, large fluctuations in soya prices in the global market and a glut in supply from Latin American countries eroded income for soy farmers and agro-companies in Malwa. Historically as well, global trade relations have influenced food production systems in the Global South. In the pre-independence era, tax systems were introduced to efficiently collect revenue for British-enforced exports of primary raw materials, such as cotton.

How can crop diversification help?

A systemic shift in food regimes, from local to global value chains, is essential. The starting point for addressing these complex systemic issues could arise from local efforts, such as the diversification of farms.

Diversified multi-cropping systems, rooted in agroecology principles, could be a viable solution to revitalise degraded land and soil. Practices known by various names locally, like '*akkadi saalu*' in Karnataka, involve intercropping with a combination of legumes, pulses, oilseeds, trees, shrubs, and livestock. This approach enables cash provision from commercial crops, food and fodder production, and offers ecosystem services such as nitrogen fixation and pest traps, and supports the local biodiversity. They also collectively contribute to improving soil health.

Critics have often argued against alternative farming systems, suggesting they may lead to a decline in farmer income even if the environment improves.

But the FAO report says that there are substantial "hidden costs" associated with the current systems which need to be factored into long-term evaluations of income. Moreover, millets, whose yield per hectare is comparable to those of rice and wheat, are also more nutritious, grow in semi-arid conditions without burdening groundwater tables, require minimal input, and provide a diversified food basket.

While crop diversification will involve some loss of productivity using a narrow metric of kg/Ha, it would preserve natural capital and allow farmers to become nutritionally secure. By redirecting subsidies, currently accruing to corporations, we can pay farmers for their contribution to sustaining natural capital, instead of incentivising them to deplete it.

How can farmers transition?

It is unrealistic to expect farmers to shift away from mono-cultivation of rice and wheat overnight. This transition needs to be systematic, allowing farmers to adjust gradually. For instance, moving from chemical-intensive practices to non-pesticide management, then adopting natural farming practices, can reduce input costs.

Farmers can diversify income through value addition, incorporating livestock and poultry. Some of these practices could be experimented with partially on specific portions of their lands.

Among the various transition pathways, a visual representation of a diversified farm involves allocating 70% for commercial crops, 20% for food and fodder, and 10% for environmental services like oilseeds (acting as trap crops). Over time, the fraction of commercial crops could be lowered to 50% and border crops could be replaced with locally-suitable tree species for fruits and fodder. Integrating livestock rearing could further improve incomes. Some preliminary economic modelling of these pathways indicates the potential to improve ecological outcomes for the landscape and sustain farm incomes in the short run (up to three years) and the long run (up to 25 years).

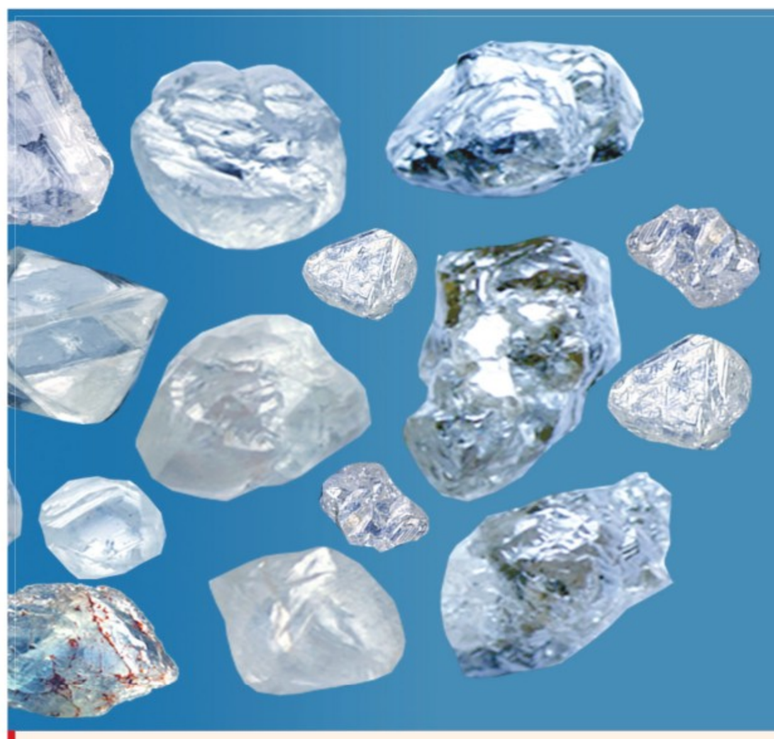
However, addressing challenges related to local seeds, institutional arrangements for market access, drudgery, and the need for farm labour is crucial when envisioning such a transition.

Scaling up these practices requires collaboration among institutions, policymakers, and social groups to articulate economic incentives for farmers to shift from high-input monoculture to diversified cropping.

P. Srinivas Vasu is the founder of SOIL, a trust that works on rebuilding soil health and promoting sustainable agriculture. Karishma Shelar is a Senior Programme Manager at the Water, Environment, Land and Livelihoods (WELL) Labs, a research centre at the Institute for Financial Management and Research.

THE GIST

- A groundbreaking report from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), published earlier this month, has laid bare the staggering hidden costs of our global agri-food systems, surpassing an astonishing $10 trillion.
- Procurement policy heavily favours rice and wheat. In 2019-2020, the FCI procured 357.95 lakh million tonnes (MT) of wheat and 443.99 lakh MT of paddy. Whole wheat and rice also became export commodities.
- Among the various transition pathways, a visual representation of a diversified farm involves allocating 70% for commercial crops, 20% for food and fodder, and 10% for environmental services like oilseeds (acting as trap crops).



Complex process of
cleansing, chiselling & polishing
Metamorphoses
each diamond individually to
unlock its full value

Children are like rough diamonds. We need to recognise their hidden potential, mentor them, motivate them to unravel their full potential. Every Student cannot be the best in the world, but every Student can be mentored & nurtured to unravel his / her 100% total potential.

As a **Third Step** you need to understand the following

1. Children need to develop high analytical skills & ability to solve problems creatively and have a solid grounding of fundamental concepts, for success not only in various scholastic & entrance exams but also in their career & life.

2. Potential alone cannot get children desired success. Children do not unravel their total potential (manifested & hidden) unless carefully harnessed by specifically trained, dedicated & sincere experts.

3. Children need access to such study material & training that is Pattern Proof i.e. irrespective of the unpredictable pattern of Scholastic & Competitive Exams, they are prepared for it completely. And this needs to be available to them in a single system of training and not from multiple sources, which will cause unnecessary confusion & stress.

4. Every child can not get NTSE scholarship, or qualify in Junior Science Olympiad, Maths & various other Olympiads. However, you need to understand the true value of preparing for these "Milestone Scholastic Exams", they play an important role in helping your child gradually build many important skills. It is our sincere advice to all students of class VI, VII, VIII, IX, & X to prepare for them in all earnest.

5. It is a known fact that the real success and happiness in career & life comes to those who possess high value system & culture. Make sure to give such schooling & coaching to your child where the culture breathes Truth, Transparency & Commitment.

6. Children do not thrive in education environment of uncertainty, false hopes, stress, & strain. Children thrive if exposed to ethical pressure, with an honest feedback system that does not allow anyone to misrepresent or tell lies to them. You & your child should be presented with the true picture every time. This truth & transparency will not allow your child to be over-confident, while passion, compassion & empathy keep your child motivated with clarity of goal.

Fourth Step is to choose the Right Education for your child. Right education is the best investment that you will make for your child. Do not compromise. When you need best nutrition for your brain, you need almonds in your diet. Peanuts are no substitute. And you can't buy almonds at a price of peanuts. Do not put your child's career at stake for some money. Value for money is important and not flimsy discounts (even in the garb of scholarships). Scholarships & Rewards should be given by an institution only to recognise outstanding merit in students (definitely not for enticing the students & parents or poaching of students from other institutes to falsely claim results) and on a clear transparent basis.

Entire Nation has been under shock with repeated suicides in KOTA. What makes it especially painful is the fact that most of these students are from one particular institute only. Students don't commit suicide owing to separation from family. Renowned boarding Schools have successfully proven this over hundreds of years. Dear Parents, Honourable President of India, Prime Minister, concerned officials in PMO, Central Education Minister, Chief Ministers, State Education Ministers, & their respective Secretaries, Judges in various High Courts & Supreme Court, Law Enforcement Agencies - Please read the contents of **Step One** to **Step Four** carefully and you will know why these suicides are happening. Please take steps. Every life is precious.

Fifth Step is to remain involved with your child to support & motivate him / her through the entire journey until adulthood. It does not matter what your education level is.

This is a Public Service Message, please help spread it.

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31 YEARS OF INNOVATION, SINCERITY, ETHICS, CONSISTENCY & HARD WORK

Passport renewal: High Court changes its earlier views

It now says authority can deny renewal and re-issuance of already issued passport during pendency of criminal case

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Changing the law interpreted in its three earlier judgments, in which it was held that pendency of a criminal case would not come in the way of renewal or re-issue of regular passport that was already issued, the High Court of Karnataka on Monday said when the law bars issuance of regular passport during pendency of a criminal case, the same yardstick is applicable even for its renewal or re-issuance.

The court has changed its views after noticing that the interpretation of law made in a case between Ashok Khanna vs. CBI by the Delhi High Court, on which the court's three earlier judgments were based, was restricted by the Supreme Court only for application in the Ashok Khanna's case in the Delhi High Court while leaving open the question of law.

"In light of the Apex Court [in its 2022 judgment] restricting the findings of the Delhi High Court only to the said respondent [Ashok Khanna], the law declared by the co-ordinate Benches of this court cannot mean that they have become final and would be binding...," said Justice M. Nagaprasanna in his order.

The court changed its earlier views while upholding the passport authority's action of putting on hold an application, by Santosh B.S of Tumakuru, for the re-issue of his existing regular passport, valid till April 10, 2024, on the reason that he cannot get a visa on this passport as its validity is less than a year.

The passport authority had put on hold the re-issue of passport as the petitioner, a senior management-level employee in a private company, is facing a criminal case for alleged murder.

The petitioner's counsel contended that refusal to re-issue the passport for another 10 years was contrary to the three judgments passed by the court in similar circumstances.

"The unmistakable inference that can be drawn is that, there is no difference between renewal, re-issuance or first issuance of the passport under Section 6(2)(f) of the Passports Act" that empowers authorities to refuse issuance of passport due to pending criminal case before courts in India, Justice Nagaprasanna observed.

Giving an illustration, the court has said that an applicant may not be facing any criminal case at the time of first instance of issuance of passport but may get embroiled in a crime later and face a criminal proceeding, and these aspects cannot be ignored at the time of renewal or re-issue of passports.

"As long as Section 6(2)(f) stares at any application, be it for fresh, renewal or re-issuance, such application cannot be directed to be allowed diluting the rigour of Section 6(2)(f)," Justice Nagaprasanna said while observing that the applicant, in the present case, "is under a cloud and if an applicant of the kind in the case at hand, wants to walk over the clouds; the cloud over such applicant must walk away."

Cyclone Michaung: 31 flights diverted from Chennai to Kempegowda International Airport

As many as 14 domestic and 17 international flights were diverted to the KIA. BHAGYA PRAKASH K.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Owing to heavy rains in Chennai, triggered by cyclonic storm Michaung, around 31 flights were diverted to the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) on Monday.

The Bangalore International Airport (BIAL) officials said that 14 domestic flights and 17 international flights, which were scheduled to land in Chennai, were diverted to the KIA.

BIAL said the diverted flights include two flights which took off from KIA but had to return to Bengaluru due to adverse weather conditions in Chennai.

"Flights belonging to Indigo, SpiceJet, Etihad, Gulf Air, Fly Dubai, Air India, Lufthansa and British Airways have been diverted from Chennai to Bengaluru. Thirty-one diverted flights have landed at KIA, including two which took off from Bengaluru but had to return," said BIAL officials.

Officials said that they do not expect any diversions as the Chennai airport has been closed till 11.30 p.m.

Passenger advisory

BIAL also issued a passenger advisory stating that due to adverse weather conditions in the region and temporary closure for arrival operations at Chennai airport, scheduled departures from KIA to Chennai, Tirupati and Vijayawada are experiencing delays or cancellations.

"Passengers are requested to check with their respective airlines for alerts and updates," BIAL stated in the advisory.

On Monday, 10 arrivals from Chennai were cancelled while one flight landed at KIA. All 10 scheduled departures from KIA to Chennai were also cancelled – of these, eight were Indigo flights and two belonged to AIX Connect (formerly AirAsia India).

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule Property from its Owners: **Smt. R. Rajini, W/o Sri. Poluri Hanumantha Rao and her son Sri. Aditya Poluri,** residing at: No.74, 2nd floor, Sri. Veerabhadreshwara Nilaya, 3rd 'A' Cross, Nagappa Layout, Uttarahalli, Subramanyapura Post, Bengaluru-560061.

Apart from the said Owners, if any other person/s have any manner of right, title and or interest or claim or charge or lien over the Schedule property or otherwise have any lawful objection/s for sale of the Schedule Property by the aforesaid Owners, they are hereby called upon to file their objection/s in writing, along with the photocopies of documents on which they rely, with the undersigned, within **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the Vacant Site No.48, PID No.150200301700428249, measuring East to West: 26.68+25.60/2 Meters and North to South: 21.34+21.38/2 Meters, in all measuring 558.35 Sq.Mtrs, in the layout known as "RESERVE BANK EMPLOYEES HOUSING WELFARE SOCIETY LAYOUT" carved out of the Residentially Converted Lands bearing Sy.Nos.141/1, 141/4, 141/9, 141/10, 141/11, 141/12, 142/4 and 150/3, measuring in all an extent of 09 Acres 38 Guntas, situated at Tavarekere Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bangalore and bounded on:

East by : Site No.47,
West by : Main Road,
North by : 40 Ft. Road,
South by : Private Property.

Sd/- S.F. Goutam Chand
Advocate
Goutam Associates
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore – 560 004

EAST COAST RAILWAY

CORRIGENDUM to

Tender Notice No.:- SNTPBBS-072023-IDS, Dt. 16.11.2023

Necessary changes have been made in Para 1 of Note 1 at page no. 163 of Tender Document and Item No. 5 of Schedule A of the above mentioned Tender Notice No.

For detailed corrigendum please visit website: www.ireps.gov.in. All other terms & conditions will remain unchanged.

Dy. Chief Signal & Telecom Engineer/T&NW/
PR-96/CG/23-24 Bhubaneswar

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION (ISRO)
ISRO-TELEMETRY TRACKING & COMMAND NETWORK (ISTRAC)
(CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP)
Plot No.12&13, 3rd Main, 2nd Phase, Peenya Industrial Estate, Bengaluru-58. Ph: 080-28094196/ 4541, Fax: 080-28094180

BRIEF E-TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of President of India, **Sealed Item rate E-Tenders** is invited online from Contractors of appropriate class for the following work in NIT by **Group Head,** CMG, ISTRAC, ISRO, Peenya, Bengaluru-58 (Ph:080-2809 4541, 4178).

Name of work	**Replacement of Air-Conditioning system for Arybhatta Seminar Hall at SCC, ISTRAC, Peenya, Bengaluru.**
E-Tender Notice	**ISTRAC/CMG/A.C/MAINT/E-Tender-70/ 2023-2024, Dated: 04.12.2023**
Estimated Cost put to tender	**Rs. 13.97 Lakhs**
Tender Document Details	**E-Tenders**
Period of Completion in months reckoned from the 15th day of date of issue of work order	**02 (Two) Months.**
Period during which the tender document can be downloaded	From 05.12.2023 to 18.12.2023 till 10.00 Hrs.
Bid Clarification	From 06.12.2023 to 19.12.2023 till 16.00 Hrs.
Last date & time for reply to Bid Clarifications	20.12.2023 up to 16.00 Hrs.
Last date and time for receipt of tenders	21.12.2023 up to 16.00 Hrs.
Due date and time of opening of tenders.	22.12.2023 after 11.00 Hrs.
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	**Rs. 27,940.00**

Interested tenderers may please refer **Detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT)** for eligibility criteria and other details from website **www.isro.gov.in** and download the tender documents from **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**

Sd/- Group Head, CMG

REVENUE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL OFFICER AND COMPETENT AUTHORITY, (IMA & OTHER KPIDFE SCAM CASES)
3rd & 4th Floor, Podium Block, V.V Tower, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru-560001
e-mail: splocaima21@gmail.com, Phone No.080-29565353/29604556

No. SPLOCA/ADM/06/2022 **Date: 02.12.2023**

NOTIFICATION

Resume/quotations are invited from interested agencies/interested individuals to fill up the following various posts which have been sanctioned and not filled up to the Office of the Special Officer and the Competent Authority (IMA and Other KPIDFE Scam). The applications shall be submitted to the this office. **Last date of submission of Resume: 12th December 2023.**

ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳ ವಿವರ:

Sl. No	Post / Designation	Qualification		Relevant Experience	No. of Post	Contract wage per Month
1	Legal FDA	Basic	Preference	Basic		
		Graduation +LLB & 1 Year at Bar	LLM & 2 Years at Bar	5 Years of Office experience in Accounting Firm / Bank/ Law firm/ Government Agencies. Good knowledge of computers including Excel. Age not to exceed 40 years, knowledge of Kannada is must.	1	Rs. 25,000 + sitting fees in court (as per rules)

Sl. No.	Post/ Designation	Qualification/ Requirements	Experience	No. of Post	Contract wage per month
1.	CA	Individuals with CA Certificate in forensic audit & Experience in the field of financial analysis and forensic audit of related Companies/Banks/Cooperatives. Job Profile: 1. Identifying Fund Trail, Tracking of banking transactions. 2. Conducting audit, Transactional forensic 3. Analysis of payer beneficiary details for bank transactions and identifying assets created out of the same. 4. Collecting information from various Government agencies such as RBI, SEBI, ED, CBI, IT etc. 5.Tracking fund transfers, analyzing cash transactions 6. Creating & validating database. 7. Analyzing and vetting claims. 8.Providing expert evidence in legal fora on payment of Rs.2000 per appearance/effective hearing and Rs 200 per ineffective hearing	Minimum-5Years as CA and 1Year as Forensic Auditor. Preferred-10 Years as CA and 2 years as Forensic Auditor & Knowledge of Audit Software like IDEA Data Analysis, CaseWare Analytics AI. Age should not exceed 55 Years.	1	Rs:1,25,000/- to 1,75,000/- per month depending upon qualification and experience and Rs25,000/- per month for Experience in forensic audit.

Sl. No	Post Designation	Qualification		Relevant Experience	No. of Post	Contract wage per Month
1	PRO/Operations Manager	Basic	Preference	Basic		
		MBA	MBA with proficiency in Kannada, Hindi, English.	Relevant experience of at least 5 years of working as PRO and / or Management operations in Government projects, preferably in multiple States	1	80,000/- to1,10,000/- depending qualification and experience

Sl. No	Post/Post/ Designation	Qualification		Relevant Experience		No. of Post	Contract wage per Month
1	Law Officer [To work in the offices of the CAs in Regional commissioner's office, Bangalore.]	Basic	Preference	Basic	Preference		
		LLB, LLM Registered at Bar council of Karnataka	LLM	Minimum 5 years' experience in High court	10 years' experience in High court & other courts	1	75,000/- to 85,000/- depending on experience

Sl. No	Post/Post/ Designation	Qualification		Relevant Experience		No. of Post	Contract wage per Month
1	Legal Shirastedar	Basic	Preference	Basic	Preference		
		LLB, Registered at Bar Council of Karnataka	Postgraduation LLM with English Typing and computer Knowledge	Minimum 1 year in legal research in a legal firm	1 Year experience as Paralegal	1	45000/-

The Position to be filled is a post created in the office of Special officer & Competent Authority, Financial Frauds Revenue Department Government of Karnataka vide Government Order No. RD45GRC2020(PIII) dated:25-08-2022 and is renewable year on year. It is a post on contract renewable on satisfactory performance with periodic enhancement of salary scales, **not permanent government service.**

Sd/-
Special Officer and Competent Authority,
IMA and Other KPIDFE Cases, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/2397/Zenkar/2023-24

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, ANJANA Achaya Aithal, R/at No.717, Sycon Cressida 7th Floor, Horamavu Main Road, Horamavu, Bangalore-560043 have changed my name from Anjana Achaya Aithal to Anjana Achaya vide affidavit dated 30/11/2023 before Notary Sivakumara.M. N, Bengaluru.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SRIPATHI Aithal Parampalli, R/at No.717, Sycon Cressida 7th Floor, Horamavu Main Road, Horamavu, Bangalore-560043 have changed my name from Sripathi Aithal Parampalli to Sripathi Aithal vide affidavit dated 30/11/2023 before Notary Sivakumara.M. N, Bengaluru.

I, MADHURI, spouse of 278174-F, Ex-Warrant Officer Jai Prakash Ojha, resident of B-1205, Komarla Brigade Residency, Uttarahalli Main Road, Subramanyapura Post, Bengaluru -560061 have changed my name from Madhuri to Madhuri Ojha vide affidavit dated 29-11-23 sworn before Addl. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Bengaluru.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE AT BENGALURU
P & Sc No. 649 / 2023

1. Indra Panjabi W/o Late Ram Panjabi, Aged about 86 years, Residing at No.305, Good Earth Apts, 2nd Cross, Cambridge Road, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560 008.
Represented by Shalini Panjabi – SPA Holder
2. Anjali Panjabi D/o Late Ram Panjabi
Aged about 58 Years, Residing at No. 301, Building -1, Wild Wood Park, Yari Road, Versova, Adnheri West, Mumbai, Maharashtra – 400 061.
Represented by Shalini Panjabi – SPA Holder
3.Shalini Panjabi D/o Late Ram Panjabi
Aged about 55 Years, Residing at No. 305, Good Earth Apts, 2nd Cross, Cambridge Road, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560 008. **PETITIONERS**
Vs. NIL **RESPONDENT**

PUBLIC NOTICE BY THE WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION UNDER SECTION 372 OF INDIAN SUCCESSION ACT.

Whereas the Petitioners above named have filed the above Petition before this Hon'ble Court under section 372 of Indian Succession Act, for grant of Succession Certificate in favour of the Petitioners No. 1 who is the wife and Petitioner No. 2 to 3 who are the daughters of Late Shri Ram Panjabi in respect of schedule properties mentioned below, held by Shri Ram Panjabi, who died intestate on 10.08.2015. If any person opposing to allow the Petition are hereby directed to appear before the Hon'ble Court in person or through by a pleader duly instructed on 05.01.2024 at 11:00 in the forenoon in the court of XIV Addl. City Civil And Sessions Judge Bengaluru, CCH - 28 to show cause against the Petitioners why relief sought by the Petitioners should not be granted. If there is no objection received on the day stated above the petition will be disposed-off by granting Succession certificate to Petitioners.

SCHEDULE
Description of the movable assets

Sl.No.1. 35 – Kotak Equity Savings Fund – Growth (Folio No. 1596054/49)
Number of Closing Units 18,807.623
(In words – Eighteen Thousand Eight Hundred and Seven point six two three).
Given under my signature and seal of this Court this 22.11.2023

By Order of the Court
Sd/- Assistant Registrar
City Civil Court, Bengaluru.

ADVOCATE FOR PETITIONER :
SAJI P. JOHN, Kar 290/99
B. RAJASHREE Kar 2726/05
SPJ LEGAL ADVOCATES
Unit No 306, 3rd Floor, # 30, Prestige Meridian II MG Road BENGALURU - 560001
Mobile No 98452 09798

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Contact:
9945238106 | 9353969886

FOR SALE

EDUCATIONAL

GENERAL

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client **Sri. Subhadip Chanda** (Aadhar No. 9075 3207 6531) intends to purchase the schedule property, brings to the notice of general public that the Original Sale deed dt.07.07.1999, Doc No.2375/1999-2000 of Book-I & registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar Bangalore South in respect of Flat No. B506/2, 5th Floor & having a BBMP Khatha No. 59/59/B-506/2 constructed area of 849Sq.ft. & 407.52 Sq.ft. of UDS on the building known as **"PRIDE"** Apartment (formerly known as **"INFOSYS PRIDE"),** constructed on the Sy.No.181 & 182, situated at **Bilekahalli Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk** measuring an extent of **03 Acres & 07 Guntas,** the Seller **SRI.ESHAN JOSHI** has lost at the time of travelling. If any person/company has any right, title, interest, claims, objections in schedule property or found the flat Sale deed, please inform to the below address within **7days** from this publication. If No objection / claims within this period my client will proceed to purchase the said schedule property. Police Complaint is also given vide Lost Report No.0723904/2023, dt. 12.09.2023.

Y. Sowmya Yadav, Advocate
Samvruddhi Legal, # 83, Ground Floor, 5th 'A' Cross, 21st Main, J.P. Nagar 2nd Phase, Bangalore-78. **M : 9916343921**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to General Public that my client Smt. Rajeshwari, presently residing at Bangalore, has lost the page no. 04 of original Sale deed dated 06/04/2023 executed by Sri. Halagappa in favour of Smt Rajeshwari. S., Wo Sri Srinivas. B., the applicant registered as document no. DSP-1-00118-2023-2024 Book I Stored in CD no DSPD1252 on 06/04/2023 in the office of Sub-Registrar Dasanapura, with respect to the Site no. 42, Situated at Dombarahalli Village, Dasanapura Hobli, measuring 880 Sq., ft, which is morefully described as schedule property mentioned below and the same is not traceable. If found inform to Smt. B. Mallika, Advocate, whose address is mentioned as below, within eight days from the date of publication.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the vacant immovable property bearing Site no. 42 formed out of Assessment no. 22A Situated at Dombarahalli Village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk presently comes under the limits of City Municipal Council Madanayakanahalli bearing Khatha no. 14, Site measuring East to West 40 feet; and North to South: On Eastern side: 18 feet On Western side: 26 feet, totally measuring 880 Sq., ft, and bounded on

East by: Site no. 37;
West by: Road;
North by: Site no. 41;
South by: Other's Property.

Sd/-
MALLIKA.B Advocate
No. 203, 2nd Floor, Saraswathipuram Main Road, Nandinilayout, Bangalore-560 096.
Ph: 9742658187

ABSTRACT

Lifeline: Farmers try to stage a rail roko at the Salem Railway Junction demanding the release of Cauvery water in Tamil Nadu on October 21. LAKSHMI NARAYANAN E

Mapping the socio-economic changes in the lower Cauvery delta

With detailed surveys in two villages, Palakurichi and Venmani, writers trace the economic situation of the villages, how crop patterns have shifted, and its impact on other sectors like education, housing and sanitation

Sudipta Datta

Edited by Madhura Swaminathan, V. Surjit and V.K. Ramachandran, *Economic Change in the Lower Cauvery Delta: A Study of Palakurichi and Venmani*: Agrarian Studies 7, Tulika Books

Why has the lower Cauvery delta declined as a hub of rice cultivation? What has been the economic impact of this drop? Why does inequality persist in the agrarian sector despite the fact that "old forms of tyrannical landlordism" and economic oppression of Dalits do not exist today? How have changes in the agriculture sector affected employment and income, education, sanitation and housing? Why is it important to push for fundamental structural change to ensure that the gains achieved in both economic performance and human development in rural Tamil Nadu are not in vain? In 2018, the Foundation for Agrarian Studies launched a project to study agrarian relations in the lower Cauvery delta with a special focus on two villages. This volume, part 7 of the Agrarian Studies series, edited by Madhura Swaminathan, V. Surjit and V.K. Ramachandran, attempts to answer these questions, by mapping the economic and social changes from socio-economic surveys conducted at Palakurichi and Venmani, two villages in Tamil Nadu.

While Palakurichi is in Kilvelur taluk and has been the focus of study by economists since the early 20th century, the Venmani village includes the hamlet of Keelavenmani, where on December 25, 1968, 44 Dalit men, women and children were forced into a hut and set on fire. Both villages lie on the "tail-end" of the Cauvery irrigation system, and thus are deeply affected when there is a fall in Cauvery water supply.

In the Introduction, Ramachandran and Swaminathan point out that the lower Cauvery delta was known for its cultivation of rice and agricultural surplus, and for the particularly "harsh and cruel – and often inhuman – forms of exploitation and oppression on the working people by feudal landlords and the state". Today the old crop regime and cultivation have changed, as have the relations of production and the brutal form of direct discrimination that were the mainstay of the old agrarian regime.

The key changes

From the survey data – the reference year for cultivation is 2018-2019 – it emerges that the delta has declined as a hub of rice cultivation in the State, coinciding with the fall in the availability of water, caused mainly by changes in water-sharing arrangements between Karnataka, the source of the Cauvery, and Tamil Nadu. "During the 'green revolution' years of the 1970s and 1980s the region changed from a single-crop region to a double-cropped region. By the time of our survey, it had reverted to being a single rice-crop region, and rice yields had declined from the levels recorded in earlier surveys in Palakurichi village."

Apart from the uneven supply of water from the Cauvery, what are the other reasons leading to a change in crop patterns? The writers point out that agriculture and irrigation policy did not address the challenges that came from a fall in water supply from the Cauvery. Neither were crops suitable for a new water regime introduced, nor were micro-level irrigation systems modernised. With the droughts in the delta in 2000-2002, 2008, 2012 and 2016, and floods and devastation caused by Cyclone Gaja in 2018, it is clear that the region "needs crop regimes and [an] agricultural policy that are suited to a region of intermittent drought and cyclonic activity."

Another important feature the writers observe is that though the gains of the green revolution began to wither, no major new sources of economic activity or production other than crop (particularly rice) production "developed concurrently" in the two villages.

Social differences

Though the writers agree that the oppression of agricultural workers and Dalits has eased, landlords still "sit atop a hierarchy where acute inequality persists." The top landlord families, which constitute 2% of households in Palakurichi, own 38% of the agricultural land held by all households; at Venmani, 1% of landlord households own 18% of all land. "Landlords owned the most and the best land in the villages, and did not work at any of the major agricultural operations." With access to higher education, their households have greater access to sources of non-agricultural employment and modern salaried incomes. At Palakurichi and Venmani, landlessness is still high, but Dalit households do own some land in both villages. The very fact that Dalits now own land "represents a historic change in the land ownership structure of the lower Cauvery delta villages."

Divided into five sections, the volume sets the tone by describing the two villages ('Palakurichi - 1916-2019' by V. Surjit; 'Venmani, 2019' by C.A. Sethu) and profiling the socio-economic 'Classes', written by Arindam Das, Rakesh Mahato, Parvathi Menon and V.K. Ramachandran. With empirical evidence from the household surveys conducted in 2019, the writers found that the "largest class in the villages is a class of wage labour, engaged in multiple agricultural and non-agricultural jobs." Other sections go into irrigation and water availability, resources (landholdings, livestock, assets and credit and indebtedness) which provide an in-depth analysis of the economic situation of the villages, earnings and living standards, including a chapter on the impact of COVID-19.

Conclusions

In the lower Cauvery delta region, there have been historic changes in "the relations of production", in which decades of class and anti-caste struggle by Dalits and the Left have played a key role. But at the same time, the writers, quoting the economist C.T. Kurien, and backed by data from the two villages, conclude that there are limits to the success of "growth without structural change" in economic development, employment, and the reduction of social and economic inequality. Tamil Nadu stands substantially ahead of the poor performers among Indian States but "because the countryside has not seen the upheaval in production relations that comes from land reform, acute inequalities of class, caste and gender persist. These take new forms in new circumstances, but are nevertheless deeply embedded in society."

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

With the Zoram Peoples' Movement becoming the newest regional party to win the elections in an Indian State, here's a quiz on other regional entrants into power

Srinivasan Ramani

QUESTION 1

Which party, led by a popular actor, went on to capture power in general elections in the State merely nine months after the party's formation on March 29, 1982? Name the State and the actor who went on to become the Chief Minister as well.

QUESTION 2

Born out of a popular anti-corruption movement, this party came to power despite finishing second in the first elections it participated in the province, thanks to outside support from another party that finished third. However, the former also relinquished power after only 49 days. Name the Chief Minister and the party in question.

QUESTION 3

Which State elected the party (in question 2) to power in 2022 for the first time in its history and that too with an absolute majority?

QUESTION 4

A Minister in a previous regime that was itself helmed by a long serving Chief Minister, this person came out of the party and launched his own on March 4, 1993. He went on to become the Chief Minister himself the very next year and then retained that post for 24 years and 165 days, a record. Name the person and his party.

QUESTION 5

This person represented a party that wanted to merge the province for whom he became the first Chief Minister, with the neighbouring State. This proposal was resisted by most of the residents, but the party was the only one which was in power in the first 16 years of the province since its decolonisation. Name the party and the first CM.

Visual question:

Which party's symbol is this? The party's leader is also currently the longest serving Chief Minister in India. Name him.

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The modern field of study that investigates the role of electricity in biological development. **Ans: Bioelectricity**

2. This experimental physicist created the first electrochemical battery. **Ans: Alessandro Volta**

3. This person wrote one of the first books of science fiction in 1818, inspired by Galvani's experiments. **Ans: Mary Shelley**

4. This person was experimented upon by Galvani's nephew. **Ans: George Foster**

5. Galvanisation is an electrochemical process in which a coating of this element is provided to iron or steel to prevent rusting. **Ans: Zinc**

Visual: Name the monument in which galvanic corrosion was found in the 1980s. **Ans: Statue of Liberty**

Early Birds: K.N. Viswanathan| Nancy Wanglembam

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

"Sir, Mr. M. Nagesha, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Panambur, Mangalore, wants to know the meaning of 'sister concern' and why it is not called 'brother concern'."

"When 'sister' is used as an adjective, it means 'of the same origin, built on the same model'. A sister concern is an establishment built on a model similar to another. 'Sister' here is used to mean 'a person or thing resembling or closely connected with another'. It is a convention to say 'sister concern' rather than 'brother concern'."

"Sir, Mr. D. V. Subramanyam, NGRI, Hyderabad, wants to known how to use the noun 'incumbent'."

"An incumbent is 'someone who officially holds a particular post at a particular time'.

The term of the Vice-Chancellor ends next month. The incumbent is keen on extension for another term.

It can also be used as an adjective.

The incumbent collector is doing a lot of good work.

The incumbent dean is more a politician than a scholar.

'Incumbent' is a formal word. 'Incumbent on or upon' means 'resting on a person as a duty'.

It is incumbent on you to explain the matter to him.

It is incumbent on you to resign your job now."

"Sir, Mr. M. S. Ramakrishnan wants to know the meaning of 'hodiernal', 'hesternal'."

"'Hodiernal' means 'of the present day'. 'Hesternal' means 'of yesterday'. These are formal words rarely used.

We shouldn't worry about hesternal affairs but only about hodiernal ones."

"Sir, Ms. Janaki Patnaik, Cuttack, wants to know whether 'aged' is one syllable or two syllables."

"When it is used as an adjective, it has two syllables.

He is an aged man. The 'a' is pronounced like the 'a' in 'slate'; 'ged' rhymes with 'lid'. The 'g' is pronounced like the 'g' in 'ginger', 'gin'. When it is used as a verb, it has only one syllable.

He has aged five years; here 'aged' rhymes with 'caged'."

"Sir, Ms. P. Bharani, RC Nagar, Anantapur, wants to know the meaning of 'pedagogic'."

" 'Pedagogue' means 'a schoolmaster, teacher'. This word doesn't have a good meaning now. It means a person who has all the bad qualities of a schoolmaster like pedantry, dogmatism, severity, etc.

He has the tone of a pedagogue and I don't like it.

You never say 'He was my pedagogue' to mean 'He was my teacher'. 'Pedagogy' means 'the science of teaching, the work or occupation of teaching'.

The two 'g's in pedagogue are pronounced like the 'g' in 'give'. In 'pedagogic', the first 'g' is pronounced like the 'g' in 'give' and the second 'g' is pronounced like the 'g' in 'ginger'. The 'e' in the words is pronounced like the 'e' in 'ten', the 'a' is pronounced like the 'a' in 'India' and the 'o' is pronounced like the 'o' in 'got'. The stress in 'pedagogue' is on the first syllable and the stress in 'pedagogic' is on the third syllable."

Published in The Hindu on March 13, 1990.

Word of the day

Dexterous:
skillful in physical movements; especially of the hands

Synonyms: deft, adeptness

Usage: *He was dexterous of hand and inventive of mind.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/dexterouspro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈdɛkstɹəs/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

In 2022, Bengaluru saw most cases of cybercrime registered across all metros

City reported 9,940 such cases, according to NCRB data; senior police official says Bengaluru tops the list because of the high concentration of IT professionals in the city, which also reflects in high levels of awareness about cyber laws, prompting better reporting

Crimes reported in Bengaluru in 2022

Type of crime	Number of cases
Causing death by negligence	902
Robbery	603
Hit and run	222
Murder	173
Rape	151
Sexual harassment	120
Dowry death	29
Death due to negligence of civic authorities	21

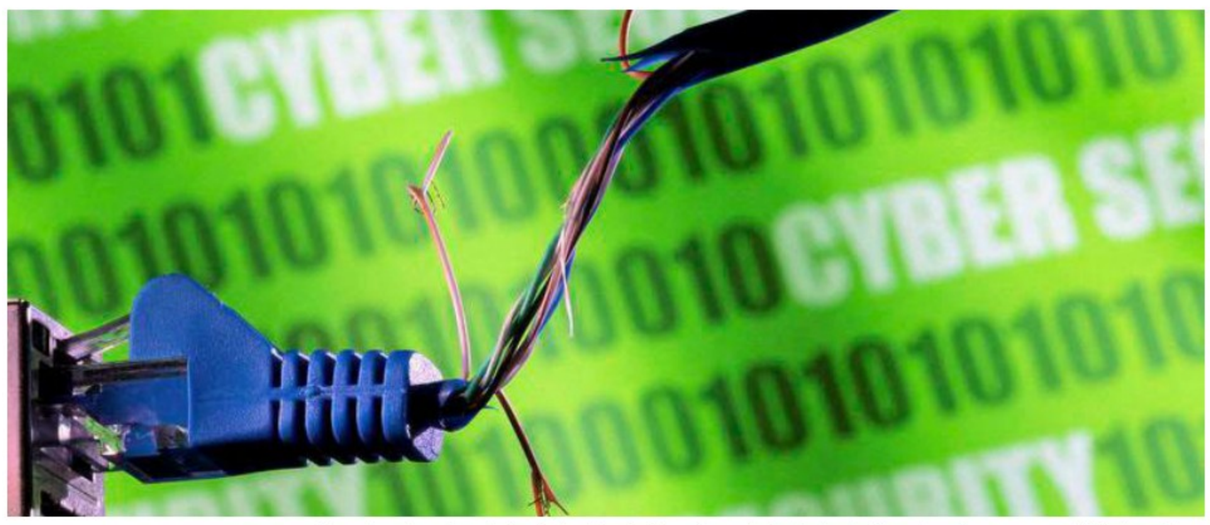
IPC cases registered in Bengaluru

Year	Total number of cases
2020	19,964
2021	21,548
2022	28,666

Crimes against vulnerable population

Year	Crimes against women	Crimes against children	Crimes against senior citizens	Crimes/atrocities against Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes
2020	2,730	1,103	210	146
2021	3,127	1,342	237	178
2022	3,924	1,578	458	247

Source: NCRB annual report, 2022



Bengaluru has five dedicated police stations to exclusively deal with cybercrime cases and this has also meant ease of reporting. In the current year, the city clocked over 9,000 cybercrime cases by November-end. REUTERS

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru has again topped the list in cybercrimes registered across all metro cities in India in 2022. The city has topped the chart of cybercrimes cases for several years now.

However, this time, the city accounts for nearly three-fourths of the cases recorded in 19 metro cities, as per the data released by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) on Sunday.

The city reported 9,940 cybercrime cases of the 13,534 cases reported in 19 metro cities during 2022, or 73.4% of the cases registered, the data shows.

A senior official said Bengaluru tops the list in cybercrimes because of the high concentration of IT professionals in the city, which also reflects in high levels of awareness about cyber laws, prompting better reporting.

However, the NCRB data shows Hyderabad, the capital of Telangana, another IT hub in South India, reported only 282 cybercrime cases among the 19 metro cities. Lucknow, Ghaziabad, Noida, and Kanpur reported more cases.

The city, having five dedicated police stations to exclusively deal with cybercrimes, has also meant ease of reporting.

Even in the current year, the city has already clocked over 9,000 cybercrime cases by November-end.

With the growing number of cases , the City Police Commissioner had asked the jurisdictional law and order police to pitch in and start registering cybercrime related cases at the local police stations to assist their counterparts.

In addition the Commissioner has also set up five Special Investigation Teams (SIT) each headed by a Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) to probe specific kinds of cybercrimes.

Investigation and recovery of money lost in cybercrimes has improved with the Cybercrime Incident Report (CIR) which helps to freeze transactions of stolen money in cybercrimes in real time.

However, the recovery is still only a fraction of the money lost.

Information Technology Minister Priyank Kharge said that the State, on an average, lost ₹1 crore a day to cybercrimes in 2022.

Karnataka also topped the list of States in the number of cybercrime cases reported with 12,549 registered, out of the total 31,908 registered in 2022.

4,027 narcotics cases recorded in 2022

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The city has also recorded the most narcotics cases among 19 metro cities across the country, with 4,027 cases, including 570 against peddlers in 2022.

The city police embarked on a special drive against narcotics in the city during the pandemic in 2020 and have kept at it since then.

The Police Commissioner releases data of drug seizures, cases and arrests made in narcotics cases every month.

The city also has the most cases registered under The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956, essentially over prostitution. The city registered 403 cases, followed by Chennai which registered 156.

A senior official said that the high number of narcotics and prostitution cases was also an indication of better enforcement.

However, the city also saw the most dowry harassment cases. Of 1,221 dowry harassment cases registered in 2022, 964 were registered in Bengaluru alone. Patna in Bihar registered the second highest number of cases, 228.

City also has most cases of rash and negligent driving

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A senior traffic police official said that the highest number of cases indicate better enforcement

Bengaluru has also topped the chart in the maximum number of cases booked against drivers for rash and negligent driving, among 19 metro cities, in 2022, the National Crime Records Bureau (NRB) data released on Sunday showed.

The data revealed that a total of 2,111 cases were registered against motorists causing grievous hurt to a total of 2,428 people. Kochi comes second with 1,729 cases, ahead of Mumbai and Delhi.

A senior traffic police official said that the highest number of cases indicate better enforcement in the city rather than the driving scenario compared to other cities. However, he added a lack of lane discipline was a big problem.

The city traffic police have brought several measures to ensure discipline among motorists and to contain the number of road accidents.

However, owing to many reasons and the growing number of vehicles, limited road infrastructure, accidents and traffic violations are on the rise, the senior official said.

The traffic police have recently introduced Artificial Intelligence-based enforcement cameras for traffic management.

The Bengaluru Traffic Police have moved to mostly online enforcement and streamlined the traffic situation through strict enforcement over the last two years, an officer with the Traffic Department said.

Car crashes into bus; catches fire

The vehicles involved in the accident on Monday.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Passengers of a BMTC bus narrowly escaped injury when a speeding car crashed into the parked bus before bursting into flames at Chandra Layout bus stand on Nagarabhavi main road on Monday morning.

The bus driver, Gourish B., was heading from Yeshwanthpur to Nayandahalli and was at a bus stop waiting for passengers, when a car rammed it and went up in flames. The passengers jumped out immediately along with the occupants of the car.

Mr. Gourish pulled out a fire extinguisher and doused the fire that was spreading around the back of the bus, which was partially damaged. The car, meanwhile, was completely destroyed. A fire tender rushed to the spot and put out the blaze before the area was cordoned off.

"No one was injured in the accident as passengers of both the car and the bus got down immediately," a senior police officer said.

Body of Yogeshwar's brother-in-law found in M.M. Hills forest

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Former Minister and BJP MLC C.P. Yogeshwar's brother-in-law Mahadevaiah, 62, was found dead inside the M.M. Hills forest range in Chamarajanagar district on Monday.

He had gone missing on Saturday from his farmhouse at Chakkere village in Channapatna taluk of Ramanagara district. The police suspect he was bludgeoned to death with a stone.

On Saturday, when a few villagers visited the farmhouse to meet him, they discovered that the door was open and Mahadevaiah was not to be seen anywhere. The house was also ransacked with the contents of the cupboard scattered everywhere.

The police said the villagers informed the family members after which his son filed a complaint.

The Ramanagara police traced the location of his phone to Ramapura village in Hanur taluk of Chamarajanagar district.

A senior police officer talking to *The Hindu* said the police found a car and there were bloodstains inside. The police and the forest officials launched a search operation and found his body.

Complaint filed against motorcyclist who hit car of Bhavani Revanna

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

The Saligrama police in Mysuru district have lodged a complaint against a motorcyclist who hit the high-end car of Bhavani Revanna, wife of former Minister and Holenarsipur MLA H.D. Revanna.

A complaint has been registered under Section 279 (negligent driving) against the motorcyclist based on the complaint from Ms. Revanna's driver.

"It's a traffic-related matter and a complaint has been registered under Section 279," said a senior police official.

The incident came to light on Monday though it reportedly took place on December 1 at Ramapura junction around 12.45 p.m. when Shivanna rammed Ms. Revanna's Toyota Vellfire. Ms. Revanna was said to be on her way to K.R. Nagar when the incident took place.

An undated video circulated on social media purportedly shows Ms. Revanna upset over her car getting damaged in the accident and was seen venting her ire against the motorcyclist and some villagers. The front portion of the car was said to have had some minor damage.

In the video, Ms. Revanna tells onlookers who will pay for the damage her "₹1.5-crore worth car" has suffered in the accident. She also tells the people who had gathered at the spot to leave the scene of the accident and not speak in favor of the motorcyclist while demanding ₹50 lakh for the damage caused.

Ms. Revanna later calls somebody over the phone to tell about the incident and instructs her staff to seize the two-wheeler that hit the car.

In Belagavi, Mr. Revanna and his legislator son Suraj Revanna apologised over the incident. When reporters sought his views, Mr. Revanna said their family had not hurt anyone so far and if someone is hurt by Ms. Revanna's outburst he would seek an apology. Similarly, Mr. Suraj also said that it was an angry outburst over the accident, and that he would seek an apology. He, however, alleged that it was caused by a person under the influence of alcohol.

IN-SPACe announces seed fund scheme

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe) has announced a seed fund scheme for start-ups operating in the areas of Urban Development and Disaster Management by using space technology.

The scheme, launched in collaboration with the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), ISRO, will provide opportunities for NGEs that leverage space technology for societal benefits to graduate to the next level. The last date of application for the Seed Fund Scheme is December 20.

As part of the scheme, selected start-ups will receive seed funding for transforming an original idea into a prototype using space technology, ISRO facility support, including Earth Observation (EO) data for validation of the concept, mentorship support, and access to data algorithms as transfer of technology from the Department of Space.

"The Seed Fund Scheme is a part of IN-SPACe's efforts to provide a special thrust to enhance the space activity capabilities of the nation with the active participation of the start-ups. This scheme is designed to support Indian space start-ups that aim to develop innovative space products and services, thereby improving the quality of life for people and communities in India and around the world," Dr. Pawan Goenka, chairman, IN-SPACe said

The IN-SPACe Seed Fund Scheme has the provision of providing financial assistance of up to ₹1 crore in addition to mentorship support, training and networking opportunities.

Timings
BENGALURU

TUESDAY, DEC. 05	
RISE 06:28	SET 17:52
RISE 00:00	SET 12:37
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 06	
RISE 06:28	SET 17:53
RISE 00:42	SET 13:11
THURSDAY, DEC. 07	
RISE 06:29	SET 17:53
RISE 01:27	SET 13:45

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	24
Mysuru	30	24
Bengaluru	24	20

Bengaluru Today
25°C Morning will be pleasant. The weather will be pleasant but humid. Chances of light rain and thundershower with gusty winds.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
26°C The weather will be comfortable but humid. Morning will be pleasant. Night also will be pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower.

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THE HINDU
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Notice Inviting Expression of Interest
(RIL/E&P/EOI/2023/03)
(Under International Competitive Bidding)
For KG-DWN-98/3 (KG-D6) Block

Reliance is India's largest private sector company, with a consolidated revenue of ₹ 976,524 crore ($118.8 billion) and net profit of ₹ 74,088 crore ($9.0 billion) for the year ended March 31, 2023. Reliance's activities span hydrocarbon exploration and production, petroleum refining and marketing, petrochemicals, advanced materials and composites, renewables (solar and hydrogen), retail and digital services. Currently ranking 104th, Reliance is the largest private sector company from India to feature in Fortune's Global 500 list of "World's Largest Companies" for 2022.

Reliance Industries Limited (RIL), as Operator, on behalf of itself & its co-venturers BP Exploration (Alpha) Limited invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from reputed and experienced Contractors for following categories, for KG-DWN-98/3 (KG-D6) Block:

Category Number	Category Description
DEV/KGD6/2023/1	Engineering of facilities for deepwater fields
DEV/KGD6/2023/2	Project Management Consultancy Services for Deepwater Field Development
DEV/KGD6/2023/3	Design Review, Appraisal, Certification and Verification Agency for Offshore Facilities
DEV/KGD6/2023/4	Services of Marine Warranty Surveyor for Offshore Facilities
DEV/KGD6/2023/5	Engineering for permanent P&A of deepwater subsea wells

Interested Contractors are requested to visit our website **www.ril.com** (eB2B> For Suppliers> E&P Notice for EOI) for further details on the above and submit their EOI through e-mail on **deveoiresponse.eandp@ril.com, on or before 20 December 2023**. Subject of the mail should mention **"RIL/E&P/EOI/2023/03"** along with category number. For documents size beyond 10 MB, Vendors should request RIL through e-mail to provide FTP link for uploading EOI documents.

Address for Communication
Chief – Supply Chain Management,
Reliance Industries Limited, Petroleum Business (E&P),
Reliance Corporate Park (RCP),
Building No 11, 'A' Wing, Second Floor,
Thane-Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai - 400 701, India.
Email: deveoiresponse.eandp@ril.com
CIN: L17110MH1973PLC019786

Reliance Industries Limited
Growth is Life

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INBRIEF

'Congress secured more votes than BJP in four States'

Despite defeat of the Congress in three major States in the Hindi belt, senior leader and MLC B.K. Hariprasad claimed that the party has secured over 9.44 lakh more votes than the BJP, which is all set to form governments in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh. In a social media post, Mr. Hariprasad said that the electorate had not voted the party to power but kept faith in the party by casting more votes than the BJP. While the Congress secured 49,077,907 votes, the BJP bagged 48,133,463 votes in four States. The Congress lost owing to the political polarisation and hatred of the BJP, he alleged.

Members read out Preamble in Legislative Assembly

The start of the Assembly session in the Suvarna Soudha in Belagavi on Monday was marked by the reading of the Preamble of the Indian Constitution by members, including Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. Before starting the proceedings of the House, Speaker U.T. Khader said the members of the House will read out the Preamble. When BJP MLA Basanagouda Patil sought to know from the Speaker if the members will be made to read the "original" or the "amended" Preamble, Mr. Khader said the member will know when he reads out the preamble after him.

Assembly condoles death of D.B. Chandre Gowda, others

The Assembly paid glowing tributes to the late Parliamentarian D.B. Chandre Gowda and other dignitaries who passed away recently. After Speaker U.T. Khader made the obituary references in the Assembly, several members recalled the contributions made by Chandre Gowda. Members cutting across party lines also paid tributes to former Minister Srirangadevarayalu, former MLAs C. Venkateshappa, Srikant Shettappa Bheemanna, Vilasbabu Alamekar, and former Governor of north-eastern States B.P. Acharya, besides martyrs who were killed in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir. Condolences were paid in the Legislative Council too on Monday.

Recruitment of 4,521 teachers to aided high schools proposed

Minister for School Education and Literacy S. Madhu Bangarappa told the Council on Monday that his department has sought the concurrence of the Finance Department to fill 4,521 vacant sanctioned posts of teachers in government aided private high schools in the State. The Finance Department's approval has been sought to fill 267 vacant sanctioned posts of teachers in government aided private PU colleges, the Minister said. Replying to an issue related to vacant posts of teachers under Rule 330, Mr. Bangarappa said the posts fell vacant between January 1, 2016, and December 31, 2020, due to retirement, death, or resignation of teachers.

PSI exam postponed by a month: Minister

It will be held on January 23, Parameshwara says in the Assembly

IN THE LEGISLATURE

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

Home Minister G. Parameshwara in the Legislative Assembly at the Suvarna Soudha in Belagavi on Monday.

Amidst demand to postpone the recruitment examination for the post of police sub-inspectors, Home Minister G. Parameshwara on Monday announced that it would be postponed by a month.

While it was scheduled for December 23, he said it would now be held on January 23, 2024. The issue was raised by BJP member Basanagouda Patil Yatnal during the Zero Hour in the Legislative Assembly. He sought at least six months for the candidates to prepare. Members cutting across party lines also demanded that the exam be postponed.

The Karnataka Examination Authority is conducting the re-examination for recruitment of 545 police sub-inspectors after the Karnataka High Court upheld the government's decision to cancel the earlier examination in which large-scale irregularities allegedly took place.

Though Mr. Parameshwara initially refused to postpone the examination, his announcement came after consulting Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. He said that it had become difficult to manage as 1,500 sub-inspector posts remained vacant. "Many police stations are now being managed by assistant sub-inspectors, and postponement would lead to delay. The government will issue notification for recruitment of another 400 sub-inspectors soon after completion of the process to hire 545 sub-inspectors".

'Weed growth has affected movement of wild animals'

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

Forest Minister Ishwar B. Khandre said on Monday that weed growth has affected the movement of wild animals in three national parks in the State and the government is removing it and ensuring the area is converted into grassland.

Replying to a question by BJP member Tejaswini Gowda in the Legislative Council during Question Hour, Mr. Khandre said weed has spread to an extent of 20% to 50% area in the jurisdiction of Bandipur, Nagarahole, and Bannerghatta National Parks.

Weed has covered 40% to 50% area (87,224 hectares) of Bandipur Tiger Reserve, 30% to 40% area (64,339 hectares) of Nagarahole Tiger Reserve, and 20% to 25% area (26,051 hectares) under Bannerghatta National Park, he said.

The types of weed include Lantana Camara, Senna Spectabilis, Chromolaena Odorata, and Mikania Micrantha. "About ₹87,000 is required for removing weed from one hectare area," Mr. Khandre said.

He said the Forest Department is removing weed as part of managing national parks. He said that ₹781 crore is required for managing Bandipur Tiger Reserve by removing weed and converting the area into grassland. As much as ₹259.48 crore was needed for Nagarahole Tiger Reserve and ₹150 crore for Bannerghatta National Park.

Replying to another question on man-animal conflict, Mr. Khandre said the government has formed 33 Rapid Response Teams covering Hassan and Kodagu districts to chase wild elephants back to forest area. In all, 95 teams have been constituted in Karnataka to chase wild animals back to forest area, he said.

Probe ordered into temple redevelopment scheme

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

The State government on Monday ordered an inquiry into the status of temple redevelopment scheme across the State after members from all parties alleged there has been no visible development taken up in the temples despite huge sums being released.

Muzrai and Endowment Minister Ramalinga Reddy's announcement in the Legislative Assembly came after JD(S) member Karemma Nayak alleged development is not visible in any of the temples in Deodurg as the money allocated under SC and ST plans had been misused. Officials have released money to contractors without verifying the status of work, she added.

Mr. Reddy said though 347 temples in Deodurg had been identified to be redeveloped in the last three years, work in 87 temples had not been taken up at all.

Yatnal threatens to boycott BJP legislature party meeting

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

Simmering discontentment in the BJP over the recent appointments showed up on the opening day of the Winter Session in Belagavi on Monday as senior BJP leader Basanagouda Patil Yatnal threatened to boycott the BJP legislature party meeting expressing disappointment over the "injustice to North Karnataka in appointments to posts".

His salvo on Monday follows earlier cryptic remarks that he posted on X, following the appointments of B.Y. Vijayendra, son of former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa, as the BJP Karnataka president, and R. Ashoka as the Leader of the Opposition. Though he publicly denied that he was in the race for either of the posts, party sources said that he was hoping to get one of them.

"I will not attend the legislature party meeting till justice is given to North Karnataka as there is no representation in the BJP. We are not slaves of those coming from South Karnataka," Mr. Yatnal told pressperson before the start of the session. He said: "There is a need to uproot dynasty politics." His covert comments seemed to be directed at Mr. Vijayendra.

He also claimed that changes in the party will take place after the Lok Sabha elections. "People who are sincere and hold Hindutva ideology should be in administration."

Multiple BJP legislators from North Karnataka to whom *The Hindu* spoke expressed unhappiness that the region had been ignored in representation though the party gets backing from the region. "The region provides the biggest number to the party and is big in geography also. We have to sustain our campaign and bring changes in the party over time," a senior legislator said.

Sources said that though the Hubballi-Dharwad West legislator Arvind Bellad is being considered for multiple posts, including Deputy Leader of Opposition and Chief Whip, it has not soothed the feelings. While speculation is rife over the appointment of the Leader of the Opposition in the Council from North Karnataka, a party leader said that is not sufficient.

According to another legislator, Mr. Yatnal had been seeking to convey his opinion for more than 25 times, but the Central leadership has not given time.

However, a former Minister from Bengaluru said that a pragmatic view has to be taken on pan Karnataka appointments as it is now a unified Karnataka and differences between region should not crop up.

Speaker will decide on removing Savarkar's portrait from Assembly hall: CM

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday said the decision to remove the portrait of Hindutva ideologue V.D. Savarkar from the Legislative Assembly would be taken by Speaker U.T. Khader.

Mr. Siddaramaiah was responding to a question from media persons whether a decision had been made regarding the removal of the portrait from the Legislative Assembly hall at the Suvarna Soudha in Belagavi.

Previous government

Incidentally, amidst criticism from the Congress, the BJP government led by Basavaraj Bommai had unveiled portraits of Swami Vivekananda, Subhas Chandra Bose, B.R. Ambedkar, Basaveshwara, Mahatma Gandhi, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, and V.D. Savarkar on the first day of the Winter Session in December 2022. The Congress not only boycotted the unveiling ceremony but had also staged a protest.

A view of the Assembly hall at the Suvarna Soudha where V.D. Savarkar's portrait has been installed. P.K. BADIGER

On Sunday, Mr. Khader had said the decision to unveil the portrait of first Prime Minister of India Jawaharlal Nehru in the Assembly hall would be taken after holding discussions.

Bengali writer chosen for Kuvempu award

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengali writer and novelist Shirshendu Mukhopadhyay has been selected for the Kuvempu Rashtriya Puraskar 2023.

The selection committee headed by B.L. Shankar, president, Rashtrakavi Kuvempu Trust, selected Mr. Mukhopadhyay for the award, said a press release. The award carries a cash award of ₹5 lakh, a silver medal, and a citation.

Mr. Mukhopadhyay has brought new sensibilities to his writings and enriched Indian literature through his works in the Bengali language. He has authored about 90 books, including stories, novels, and travelogue. The award will be presented on December 29.

World Soil Day to be observed today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Scientists have stressed the importance of maintaining soil health particularly in a drought-hit State like Karnataka on the occasion of World Soil Day, which is being observed on Tuesday with the theme: "Soil and water: A source of life".

N.B. Prakash, professor of Soil Science & Dean of the UAS-Bengaluru, said improved soil and water management boosts the land's capacity to withstand extreme climate conditions such as drought, flood, and sandstorm.

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(BALLARI THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-procurement portal)

Tenders are invited through e-Procurement Portal (Website URL: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**) for the following works: (1) No.: KPCL/2023-24/PS/WORK_INDENT953, Date: 25.11.2023 for **"Annual overhauling works of coal/pulverized fuel (PF) piping, couplings and pipe bend, hangers and its connected accessories of UNIT#1 for a period of one year".** (2) No.: KPCL/2023-24/PS/WORK_INDENT951, Date: 25.11.2023 for **"Annual overhauling works of bowl mills, seal air fans and its auxiliaries of UNIT#1 for a period of one year".** (3) No.: KPCL/2023-24/IND0646, Date: 25.11.2023 for **"Procurement of Power Contactors".** (4) No.: KPCL/2023-24/IND0654, Date: 25.11.2023 for **"Procurement of Over Load Relays".** (5) No.: KPCL/ 2023-24/IND0653, Date: 27.11.2023 for **"Procurement of Power Contactors GE Make".** (6) No.: KPCL/2023-24/IND0657, Date: 27.11.2023 for **"Procurement of Pressure Switches".** Last date & time for submission of tenders: **for Sl. No. 1 & 2: 11.12.2023 up to 16.00 hrs., for Sl. No. 3 to 6: 20.12.2023.** Further details can be had from the **for Sl. No. 1 & 2:** Executive Engineer (MM), Mobile: 9448290571, **for Sl. No. 3 to 6:** Executive Engineer (Purchase)BT, Mobile: 09480830342, BTPS, KPCL, Kudathini-583152, Ballari District.

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.
Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001
Corporate Identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813 Website: www.pspcl.in
(Contact No. 96461-22185)

Tender Enquiry No. 304/SS(D)-357/Spares **Dated: 04.12.2023**

Dy. CE/Substation Design / TS Organization, PSPCL, C-1, Shakti Vihar PSPCL, Patiala invites E-tender for MANUFACTURING, TESTING AND DELIVERY OF 220KL NAPTHENIC BASE TRANSFORMER OIL. For detailed NIT & Tender Specification, please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 06.12.2023 (11:00 AM onwards)
NOTE:- Corrigendum and amendments, if any, will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

C - 872/23 **76155/12/2469/2023/30319**

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.
Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001
Corporate Identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813 Website: www.pspcl.in
(Contact No. 96461-22185)

Tender Enquiry No. 302/SS(D)-II (under RDSS) **Dated: 01.12.2023**

Dy. CE/Substation Design / TS Organization, PSPCL, C-1, Shakti Vihar PSPCL, Patiala invites E-tender for Manufacture, Testing, Supply & Delivery of 35 Nos. 11kV Residual Voltage Transformer (RVTs) (under RDSS). For detailed NIT & Tender Specification, please refer to https://gem.gov.in from 02.12.2023 (09:00 AM onwards), having GeM Bid Number as "GEM/2023/B/4274919."
NOTE:- Corrigendum and amendments, if any, will be published online at https://gem.gov.in/

C - 868/23 **76155/12/2465/2023/30315**

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer
Project Division, West Zone, Joint Commissioner (West) Office Premises
2nd Floor, Sampige Road, Sheshadripuram Bengaluru - 560 020.

No. EE/PW/TEND/09/2023-24 **Date: 04.12.2023**

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(To Arrive the Market Rates)

Bruhat Banglore Mahanagara Palike invited tender from eligible bidders for the **"Supply of Stationery Items to office of West zone, BBMP for one year".**

Calender of Events:

1.	Date of Commencement of Download of Tender Document from Karnataka public procurement portal Website: **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**	On 06-12-2023 onwards
2.	Last Date and Time for uploading online Queries in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal	08-12-2023 upto 5:00p.m.
3.	Last Date and Time for uploading of e-Tender in karnataka Public Procuerment Portal	20-12-2023 upto 5:00 p.m.
4.	Date and Time of Online Opening of Technical Bids and Financial Bids	22-12-2023 at 5:30 p.m.

* Other details can be seen in the tender documents.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer, Project-West-BBMP

E-mail: sencrwangul@yahoo.co.in
Ph: 06764-236404

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, ANGUL

No. 3060 **Dt. 02.12.2023**

e-Procurement Notice for Road works in Odisha

1 Nature of the work : Road works
2 Total No.of work : 02 Nos.
3 Estimated cost : Rs.158.28 to 811.06 Lakhs
4 Class of Contractor : As per annexure.
5 Period of completion. : As per annexure.
6 Other details,

Procurement Officer	Bid Idetification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding		Last date & Time of seeking tender clarification	Date & Time of opening of tender	
		From	To		Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Cirlce , Angul	Road online AGL -32/2023-24	13.12.2023 at 10.00 A.M	28.12.2023 upto 5.00 P.M	27.12.2023 upto 1.00 P.M	29.12.2023 at 11.00 AM	Will be intimated seperately

For detailed Notice inviting Tenders, Please visit to the web site **www.tendersorissa.gov.in**

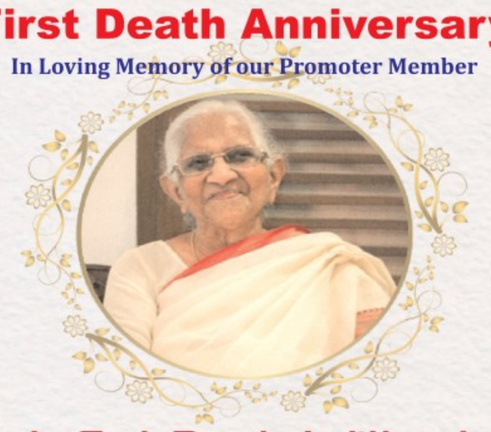
Sd/- Chief Construction Engineer,
Rural Woks Circle, Angul.

O-1713 OIPR-25180/11/0042/2324

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

First Death Anniversary
In Loving Memory of our Promoter Member



Late Smt. Panda Lalithamba
01.07.1926 – 05.12.2022
We cherish our memories of her and pray for her soul to rest in peace !
Management and Staff of Beardsell Limited

‘Unscientific’ landfills, not a solid fix for waste management

Unregulated dumping into unscientific landfills within the city has led to a whopping 50 lakh tons of legacy waste. Moves are now afoot by BSWML to call tenders for bio-mining and bio-capping

Rasheed Kappan
BENGALURU

File photos of Mavallipura garbage dumping yard near Doddaballapura.

Are ‘unscientific’ landfills the only way to manage Bengaluru city’s massive mountains of solid waste? In the frantic, decades-long struggle to deal with this mammoth issue, why has the focus shifted completely away from waste processing? As more quarries are identified as landfills, the search for a sustainable long-term solid waste management plan has hit rock bottom.

The clarity is clearly missing. The State-owned Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML) recently floated a tender to set up two landfill sites in the city, one near Bagalur and another in Kada Agrahara in Mahadevapura. It also proposed to develop two existing ones for the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP).

This came just weeks after Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar announced that all waste processing plants and landfills would be shifted out of the city soon. The waste, he declared, would go straight to Integrated Solid Waste Management Parks to be set up in 100-acre plots located far away from the city.

Integrated SWM Parks

On paper, the plan looks grand. The parks are to be equipped with composting units, dry waste aggregation centres, landfills for inert and rejects, generation of refuse-derived fuel and waste energy plants. The assurance to citizens is this: They could forget about all their problems linked to landfills, odour and other health hazards.

But what about the communities living around the proposed landfills? “The landfill areas they are talking about, whether it is in Kanakapura or Ramanagara, are all prime agricultural spaces. A hundred acres, with a buffer around it where the water will get spoilt ... I can’t imagine how they have the heart to think of it,” notes Sandya Narayanan from the Solid Waste Management Round Table (SWMRT). Mountains of muck dumped by trucks laden with upwards of 4,000 tons per day for years have led to extreme groundwater contamination in Mandur and Mavallipura.

“Today, if you walk through Mavallipura, you see everything burnt, dark, brown, the water spoiled. Mandur too is like that. They have spoiled the land areas around the landfills,” she says.

Not scientific, only dumps

The city’s daily solid waste generation, inclusive of bulk generators, now exceeds 6,500 tons. “The buffer area of one or two kilometres around the newly identified areas will be spoilt as well,” warns Sandya. The reason is clear: Landfills have never been scientifically structured. They are seen as mere garbage dumps. In the West, scientific landfilling ensures that the waste (leachate) does not percolate down to the groundwater table and contaminate it. “The layering also ensures that the landfill gases do not escape either. Here, calling it a landfill itself gives a wrong impression. It is nothing but dumping.

They just look for some quarry, dump the garbage and finish it,” she points out. Indiscriminate dumping leads to the emission of poisonous methane gas, also sparking fires and extreme air pollution. Unscientific landfills are also a huge health hazard being a storehouse of bacteria and viruses, leading to lung and cardiovascular diseases.

Typically, scientific landfills prevent the leachate from seeping underground by building a base layer of 90 metres of clay. Atop this layer, a 15-metre drainage layer is built with soil. To minimise soil erosion, a vegetative layer of about 50cm is then applied.

The absence of these layers had the entire groundwater table contaminated in Mandur, forcing the villagers to source water from distant Hoskote. The landfill there also lacked vertical wells, a feature of scientific structures to extract methane that could be used to generate electricity.

Landfills here are seen as a simple, lazy approach. As Sandya says, “They don’t want to do it the hard way by fixing the problem through waste processing. Landfill is an easy fix where, at least for some time, the problem goes away till someone else takes over.

Even the commissioners are here for a year and a half term. Nobody wants to break their heads over it. This is a terrible approach.”

Waste-to-energy: Toxic, expensive

Waste processing is complex, requiring time, effort, pilot studies, deep analysis and scaling up. Currently, one approach being bandied about is waste-to-energy. Many solid waste management experts see this as unacceptable. They find it extremely toxic and very expensive. “It causes fly ash, residues, suspended air particles, asthma and all the related diseases. When you should be focusing on recovery, you are burning the whole thing. It is a ridiculous exercise.”

But why should plastic and e-waste be going to the landfills at all when existing legislation mandates that the producers and brands take the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)? This is the question posed by Wilma Rodrigues, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Saahas Zero Waste.

“Today, you have very good legislation, and EPR regulations are very much in line to ensure that plastic and e-waste are not sent to the landfills,” she says.

EPR potential to tackle plastic, e-waste

The BSWML, which operates under BBMP, had recently registered for EPR, the implementation of which is expected to yield annual revenues of about ₹100 crore. It could now levy a fee on companies to process plastic and e-waste. The collected waste is to be processed and recycled in Bidadi.

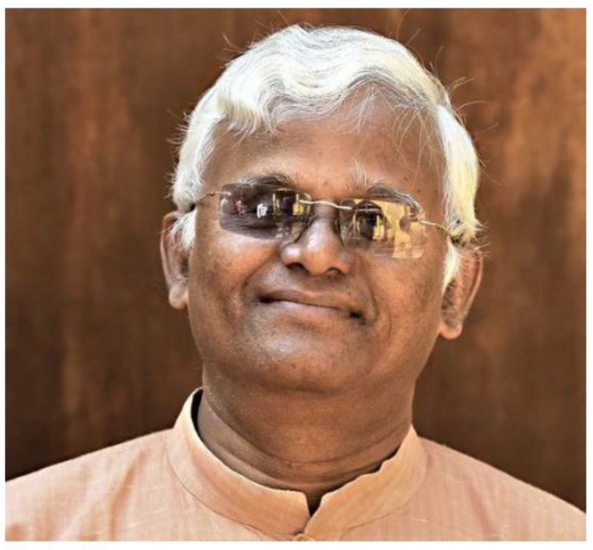
So, here is a source of revenue, notes Wilma. “But this revenue has to go into a proper system, which means you have to bring about a behavioural change in people. People have to bring the waste to collection centres, it has to be stored appropriately and properly sorted and then sent to the material recovery facility. There should be a proper system in place to ensure that the waste does not actually go to landfills. We need to see more discussions on this,” she explains. Unregulated dumping into unscientific landfills within the city has led to a whopping 50 lakh tons of legacy waste. Moves are now afoot by BSWML to call tenders for bio-mining and bio-capping of four landfills to address this issue. At least on paper, it would take another five years to clear this legacy waste, as cited in the last State Budget.

But bio-mining, too, needs to be done scientifically, as Mandur residents say. Raking up the waste, lying dormant for years, could spark up fresh trouble, odour issues and health hazards. Done with care and sensitivity, this could be tackled, say SWM experts, who also want the odour problem associated with bio-methanation to be fixed. As one of them asserts, “It is not an impossible task.”

India’s Millet Man embarked on millet journey at the age of six

Dr. Vali has been an independent scientist ever since he began research on millets more than three decades ago

Yemen S.
BENGALURU



Khader Vali

File photo of heads of diverse pearl millet varieties at the ICRISAT gene bank in Hyderabad.

Dr. Khader Vali, a recipient of the Padma Shri, also known as the Millet Man of India, a pioneering Indian organic farmer and environmentalist is known for his renowned innovative and sustainable agricultural practices for more than three decades. He hailed from the Kadapa district in Andhra Pradesh, India, and dedicated his life to promoting organic farming and preserving traditional agricultural wisdom.

From grandmother’s house

Despite spending more than three decades in the world of millets, Dr. Vali told *The Hindu* that his journey and interest is millets started as early as the age of six, “Way back, when I was six-years old, when I was in Andhra Pradesh, I visited my grandmother’s place in Anantapur district and that is when I consumed millets for the first time, until then I was eating rice as everybody else. The very next day I realised that my stools were very comfortable. Soon after that I started eating millets and avoided rice as much as possible”.

“As I got older and I studied biochemistry, the first thing that struck me was that rice was absolutely not meant for the human gut, as it pumps the blood with glucose in such a short span, and it disturbs the homeostasis of the blood. So, when you know that blood must not have more than five grams of glucose at any given time, I do not know how doctors and biochemists in the entire world have let this happen“, Dr. Vali added.

The Green Revolution

Dr. Vali believes that before the Green Revolution the entire world ate millets, “All over the world, the first domesticated grass, that is millets, could be grown anywhere. If you go back to literature from across the world, there is a mention of millets. It is the food human beings first had access to across the globe, it could grow in the mountains, near the deserts and everywhere else. It is something that has been consumed for thousands of years, it has references even in Indian mythology, Prophet Mohammed had barnyard millet porridge, Jesus‘ last supper was a bread made of brown top millet, but all these information has been consciously removed from the history”.

“The Green Revolution changed the way the entire world ate. It is not just healthy food, but the rights of the farmers that have been taken away in the name of the Green Revolution, sabotaging our food. Even today the agriculture departments across the world claim that the Green Revolution was necessary as there was a lack of food, when millets were easily available. It was these agriculturists who called millets fodder, animal feed, bird feed and lots more. Due to this many people in the villages that I visit also believe that millets are suitable for animals and birds, and not humans“.

Traditional methods

Dr. Vali has been an independent scientist ever since he began research on millets more than three decades ago. His approach to farming was deeply rooted in traditional and indigenous methods, emphasising the use of natural inputs and techniques to enhance soil fertility and crop productivity. He vehemently opposed the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, advocating for eco-friendly alternatives that nurtured soil health and biodiversity. Dr. Vali also alarmed that the world would fall apart if its eating habits were not changed, “This is not just about changing eating habits of our country but also the entire world. The world will fall apart if the eating habits of humans are not changed. The only way we can make the world eat the right food is to tell the truth. We need to continue telling humans that this is the real food for the human gut and that is the only way”.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO DECEMBER 5, 1973

Inter-Dt. Movement of Ragi May be Banned

Bangalore, Dec 3: The Karnataka Government is likely to impose shortly a ban on inter-district movement of ragi.

There is already a ban on the inter-district movement of paddy and jowar, which come under the State Government’s levy order. Ragi is also one of the foodgrains included under the levy order.

The Minister of State for Food, Mrs. Eva Vaz told newsmen here to-day that the ban on inter-district movement of ragi had to be imposed to ensure its procurement. The ragi crop would be ready for harvest in about a month.

Council to Co-ordinate Educational Research

Bangalore. Dec, 3: The Karnataka Government is planning to set up a State Council of Educational Research, Extension and Training to co-ordinate the working of the various wings of the Education Directorate–the State Institute of Education, Educational Research Bureau and the Guidance Bureau. It will be located at Vidyanagar, near Bangalore.

The Education Minister, Mr. A. R. Badrinarayan, who disclosed this while inaugurating the first training course for probationers of the Education Department, by the Institute for Social and Economic Change, said the Government was also contemplating to set up district in-service education centres to provide “continuous in-service education” to primary and secondary teachers.

CITYBEATS

Festive indulgence

DECEMBER 4 ONWARDS
It is the season for sugar, spice, and all things delicious at Magnolia Bakery. Delight in festive treats, featuring the classic plum cake and plum cake loaf. Handmade with dry fruits soaked in rum and spiced fresh fruits, these delights are perfect for gifting. You can pre-order these hand-made treats from ₹200 (plus tax) onwards.
At various outlets in Bengaluru.

Electrifying celebration

DECEMBER 10
Hold on to anything you can grab as the Jackfruit Dance Party turns two this year. Get ready for a wild celebration starting from 2pm. The party boasts a lineup featuring Tornado Wallace from Berlin, DJ Nik, Chan, Skye, Sura, Ari3000, and Master Shifu, with JDP residents Rishi.Sippy and TwokidWickid.
At Koramangala SOCIAL. RSVP at 9152010479.

Jazzy delight

DECEMBER 8
Immerse yourself in live jazz at The Drawing Room, Smoke House Deli. This Friday features Mylo Khawlhring & Jeff on saxophone, creating an enchanting atmosphere. With a decade in the hotel industry, Mylo ensures a vibe that resonates. Savour signature cocktails and sparkling wine, engaging in lively conversations.
At Indiranagar. Contact 8657738861.

Multiverse of melodies

This week, tune in to the musical interlude ZLB23 is bringing to Bengaluru. The lineup includes different genres ranging from jazz to rock and bebop

Tune in Enjoy performances byEssence of Duality, Bluegrass Journeymen, Mamogi and more. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Ruth Dhanaraj

For a span of ten days, staring December 5, ZLB23 will be the venue ushering in the start of the musical season. Titled, Magnetic Music Season 01, the event will see a lineup of nine bands – national and international – wowing music lovers in the city.

Curated by Madhav Sehgal, Area Vice President - South India, The Leela Palaces, Hotels, and Resorts, the lineup includes musicians from different genres ranging from jazz and classical to rock and bebop.

"Designed and dedicated for people to celebrate and have a great time, this venue is not for audiences alone; artistes too, should feel satisfied performing here. The city of Bangalore has always welcomed music and keeping this in mind, we are hosting a music festival, bringing in various artistes from various genres to celebrate them and their music," says Madhav, adding that ZLB23 is a live music venue, with musicians playing there throughout the week.

"We hope to make Magnetic Music a regular feature, hence the addition of 'Season 01' to the event name," he says, adding that their next musical event, most likely to be held after six months, would be themed around folk and fusion music.

"The city demands it, our venue is designed for it; so we are using our resources to give artistes from around the world an opportunity to come and share their music with us," says Madhav.

The event starts with German band Essence of Duality which combines jazz and Indian classical music playing on December 5, followed by Los Rolling Ruanas, a Colombian band from Bogota presenting contemporary music the next day. From December7, Bengaluru-based bands will be performing, starting with Moon Arra World Fusion, the resident band at ZLB23. They will be followed by the Gerard Machado Quartet on December 8. The next day, December 9, will see the Saurav Ghosh Quartet play modern contemporary jazz tunes as well as the classics.

On December 12, Samanth Pais' August Quartet will cover the works of jazz greats while The Bluegrass Journeymen from the United States will treat audiences to old-time country and bluegrass tunes, the next day. Bringing the festival to a close are the Karthik Mani Group blending folk, rock, jazz and Carnatic on December 14 and MaMoGi comprising Mark Hartsuch, Mohini Dey and Gino Banks bringing progressive rock, electronic and jazz music on December 15.

Magnetic Music Season 01 will be on ZLB23, The Leela Palace, from December 5 to 15. For reservations message 9632060433 (WhatsApp messages only)

> The city of Bangalore has always welcomed music and keeping this in mind, we are hosting a music festival, bringing in various artistes from various genres to celebrate them and their music.
>
> **MADHAV SEHGAL**
> Area Vice President - South India, The Leela Palaces, Hotels, and Resorts

Writing is mysterious, says Abraham Verghese

Preeti Zachariah

When Abraham Verghese's mother was in her seventies, his niece asked her what things were like when she was a young girl. So, she began writing an illustrated manuscript in longhand around 120 pages long, filled with stories of what her life was like back then. "It was for her grandchild, but it obviously became an heirloom for all of us," recalls the writer and physician at his session titled *Arc of the Covenant* at the Bangalore Literature Festival on Sunday.

This manuscript became the starting point of his epic new novel, *The Covenant of Water,* a 724-page-long intergenerational saga set in Kerala. "When I picked up this precious thing again and looked at it, I realised that it was such a rich, vibrant setting for a novel," says Verghese to Bengaluru-based independent journalist and writer Ammu Joseph, who he was in conversation with at the session.

Over a 40-odd-minute-long conversation, peppered with plenty of laughter and applause, Verghese and Joseph regaled their audience with anecdotes, memories, observations and banter, serenaded by the gentle pitter-patter of rain and the sudden mewling of a stray cat that had snuck into the tent.

Weaving tales Abraham Verghese and Ammu Joseph at Bangalore Literature Festival K MURALI KUMAR

"I was nervous about setting the novel in India, especially in Kerala" admitted Verghese, pointing out that while he spent all summers in Kerala, he was born and lived abroad for most of his life and was not particularly fluent with the local rituals and idioms of the land. "I was prepared for the novel to be treated with some scepticism and condescending criticism," he says. "It was a wonderful, wonderful thing to have the book so well received."

The session then veered into a conversation about the novel itself, discussing how relatable it is, about the strong women who inhabit it, and how he writes these female characters as a man. "I have anatomical barriers. There is only so far that I can do," laughs Verghese, recalling how he consulted a classmate to offer eloquent details about the labour process: research and good friends were great resources for this novel, as was his mother.

Responding to a question about how he manages to balance his demanding day job with his writing and research, Verghese says it helps that Stanford University's School of Medicine, where he teaches, has been very supportive of his writing. He even has a secret office on campus where he can disappear a couple of times a week to write if he wishes to, he says. And yes, he also writes late nights and weekends, whenever he can really. "Many times, it feels like drudgery, but in the journey of this book, the part that I treasure are those moments in being there, pushing this rock further ahead. Much of my writing was about discovery. I am a big believer that writing is mysterious."

Time travel Shalini B Menon with her artwork SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

An ode to childhood

Navya Naveli

Shalini B Menon has captured the essence of innocence, nostalgia, and personal reflection in her first solo exhibition.

A magnificent amalgamation of watercolours, acrylics and oil paintings, Shalini's canvases are a mesmerising testimony of her childhood and recollections of Kerala, her home state.

The diligent use of colours, the delicate brushstrokes and lively hues, show the wholesomeness of a carefree spirit. The laughter of children at play by the sea side, her ancestral home and the mesmerising view of the woods before the rain, have been brought to life through her work.

The paintings evoke multiple emotions in the viewer – introspection, cherished memories and a sense of vulnerability. It creates a symbiotic relationship between a personal narrative and universal experiences.

Shalini was a chartered accountant for 24 years but always wanted to return to painting. "Seven years ago, I started professionally, moving from realistic to contemporary art. Watercolors have always been the closest to my heart as it is a very simple medium, but it captures many details."

Hailing from Kerala, the place has always inspired Shalini. "The traditions, my childhood, and memories are what drives this exhibition. It revolves around Kerala and my childhood, and that is why it has been titled Paper Boat."

It is about communication, stories and experiences, says Shailini. "Art has the power to connect people and can take you to various places. It is about celebrating the simplicity and complexity of one's memories in which the colour palette plays a major role."

Paper Boat is on display till December 7 at Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath

From Page One

Elephant Arjuna dies in attack by wild tusker

A file photo of Arjuna leading the Mysuru Dasara procession by carrying the 750-kg golden howdah.

The Forest Department staff had identified a tusker for capture after noticing a herd of 12 elephants. As per the procedure, the target elephant had to be separated from the herd for capture. It is said that the staff, with the help of tamed elephants, separated the tusker and fired a tranquilliser dart to sedate the animal. Under the influence of the tranquilliser, the tusker charged at the tamed elephants. While other tamed elephants withdrew, Arjuna stood firm to face the tusker.

Anticipating danger, the caretakers and other team members left the place. Arjuna engaged with the tusker, suffered deep wounds, and succumbed a few minutes later. The death left the caretakers and staff members in grief.

Venu, caretaker of Arjuna, fell unconscious as he learned about the death. He was shifted to a hospital in Sakleshpur. He has been associated with the animal for several years.

The tamed elephants, including Arjuna, had been brought in to conduct the operation of fixing radio collars on nine wild elephants in Belur taluk. So far, the department has succeeded in capturing two tuskers for translocation and three female elephants for fixing radio collars. The radio collars are fixed around the neck after sedating the elephants so that their movement can be traced. With the help of such radio collars, the department informs the local people in elephant-affected areas about the movement of herds to avoid human-elephant conflicts.

CM expresses grief

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said he felt hurt after learning about the death of Arjuna, who used to be the main attraction of Mysuru Dasara.

"The majestic walk of Arjun remains etched in the memory of lakhs of people like me," he said in a post on X (formerly Twitter).

Michaung: red alert sounded, thousands evacuated in A.P.

Landfall of cyclonic storm likely between Nellore and Machilipatnam during forenoon; West Godavari, Konaseema, Eluru, Prakasam, Krishna, NTR, Bapatla and Guntur districts may be hit

The Hindu Bureau
VIJAYAWADA

Submerged in water: Streets of Nellore waterlogged due to Cyclone Michaung on Monday. Life in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu was disrupted due to this cyclone. KOMMURI SRINIVAS

The cyclonic storm 'Michaung' over west-central and southwest Bay of Bengal off south Andhra Pradesh intensified into a severe cyclonic storm on Monday afternoon, and moved north-northwestwards with a speed of 10 kmph during the last six hours, the India Meteorological Department (IMD), in a release on Monday, said.

As of 5.30 p.m., the storm lay centred on west-central Bay of Bengal off south Andhra Pradesh, about 80 km southeast of Nellore, 120 km north-northeast of Chennai, 210 km south of Bapatla and 250 km south-southwest of Machilipatnam.

It is likely to move parallel and close to south Andhra Pradesh coast and cross the coast between Nellore and Machilipatnam, close to Bapatla, during the forenoon of December 5, as a severe cyclonic storm with a maximum sustained wind speed of 90 to 100 kmph and gusting to 110 kmph. The IMD has issued a red alert for a few districts in the State. Those that will receive extremely heavy rainfall on Tuesday and marked red are West Godavari, Konaseema, Eluru, Prakasam, Krishna, NTR, Bapatla and Guntur.

The districts that are likely to receive very heavy rainfall and marked orange are: East Godavari, Kakinada, YSR Kadapa, Nellore and Alluri Sitaramaraju. The north coastal Andhra Pradesh region, as well as Tirupati, Annamayya and Nandyal, is marked yellow, as it is expected to receive heavy rainfall. Meanwhile, many places in the south coastal Andhra Pradesh and Rayalaseema regions have recorded moderate to heavy rainfall during the last 24 hours ending 8.30 p.m. on Monday. According to the Andhra Pradesh State Development Planning Society, Tirupati and Nellore districts received the maximum rainfall, with Poolathota in Tirupati district recording 239 mm followed by Nellore (231 mm).

Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority Managing Director B.R. Ambedkar said so far 7,361 people had been evacuated to safer places in the districts of Nellore, Prakasam, Krishna, Bapatla, Tirupati, Kakinada, West Godavari, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Konaseema, and 28,160 more people are likely to be evacuated.

CM takes stock

Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy instructed the officials to ensure that there was no loss of life due to the incidents related to the cyclone.

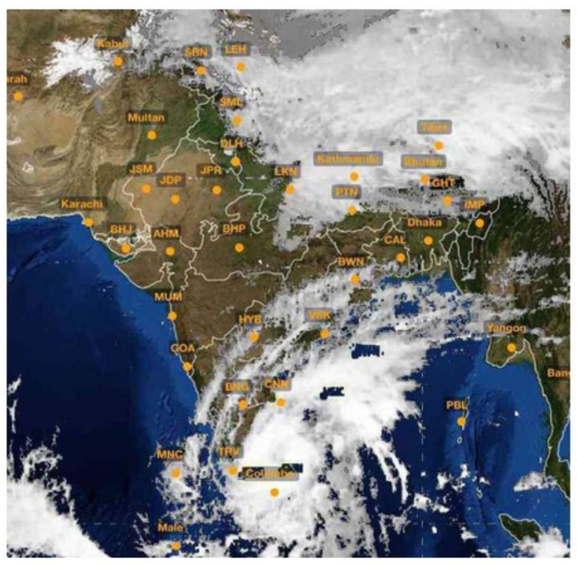
2 pilots killed in IAF trainer aircraft crash

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

A trainer aircraft of the Indian Air Force crashed in Medak district of Telangana on Monday, killing two pilots. An official release confirmed that two pilots succumbed to fatal injuries. "The aircraft, a Pilatus PC-7 Mark II, met with an accident this morning during a routine training sortie from Air Force Academy, Hyderabad. It is with deep regret that IAF confirms that both the pilots on board have sustained fatal injuries," said the release.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Tuesday: Heavy to very heavy rainfall at a few places with isolated extremely heavy rainfall very likely over Coastal Andhra Pradesh and Yanam. Exceptionally Heavy rainfall at one or two places over North coastal and adjoining South coastal Andhra Pradesh and Yanam

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	4.0	29.2	18.4	Kozhikode	—	33.8	25.6
Ahmedabad	—	27.5	19.5	Kurnool	—	33.0	24.5
Aizawl	—	—	—	Lucknow	0.4	19.0	17.0
Allahabad	—	29.0	17.4	Madurai	0.2	33.6	24.7
Bengaluru	0.4	24.5	20.2	Mangaluru	—	34.1	23.9
Bhopal	—	29.8	18.7	Mumbai	—	32.2	24.5
Bhubaneswar	—	29.6	22.6	Mysuru	—	—	—
Chandigarh	—	24.7	12.8	New Delhi	—	24.0	14.4
Chennai	230	27.5	23.5	Patna	—	31.3	16.1
Coimbatore	—	32.2	23.8	Port Blair	11.0	30.8	25.2
Dehradun	—	23.8	11.6	Puducherry	34.2	26.6	23.6
Gangtok	—	17.7	10.0	Pune	—	33.5	20.6
Goa	—	33.8	24.0	Raipur	5.0	30.9	20.0
Guwahati	—	28.9	15.0	Ranchi	—	27.6	16.4
Hubballi	—	31.0	20.0	Shillong	—	20.6	9.4
Hyderabad	—	30.8	19.8	Shimla	1.0	16.6	5.4
Imphal	—	23.3	11.3	Srinagar	—	12.0	0.7
Jaipur	0.6	25.3	13.8	Thiruvananthapuram	0.3	33.6	25.2
Kochi	—	31.8	25.6	Tiruchi	0.2	30.1	25.6
Kohima	—	18.5	8.2	Vijayawada	0.4	32.1	23.2
Kolkata	—	28.9	21.3	Visakhapatnam	21.0	30.0	21.8

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	—	15	24	57	60	
Bengaluru	8	42	37	166	98	
Chennai	3	—	57	—	6	
Delhi	7	48	33	355	281	
Hyderabad	13	24	38	128	—	
Kolkata	7	—	37	203	139	
Lucknow	9	35	51	133	110	
Mumbai	11	71	22	219	181	
Pune	129	199	110	206	124	
Visakhapatnam	—	—	—	—	—	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m.,Vivek Vihar, Delhi recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 355 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast,Perungudi, Chennai recorded a healthy AQI score of 55.

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

ODISHA STATE AGRICULTURAL MARKETING BOARD (OSAMB)
(A Statutory Organization of Govt. of Odisha)
Plot No.1800(P), Baramunda, Post-Khandagiri, Near Indian Oil Petrol Pump
Bhubaneswar Ph. No.0674-295241 0, Email : osamboard99@yahoo.com
No. 02 Dated: 02.12.2023

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR EMPANELMENT OF AGENCIES FOR DISTRICT AND STATE LEVEL BUYER SELLER MEET

OSAMB invites Expression of Interest (EOI) for Empanelment of Agencies for District and State Level Buyer Seller Meet
The EOI documents covering the details of information, eligibility criteria, selection process and other terms & conditions can be downloaded from https://osamb.odisha.gov.in from 04.12.2023. The last date for submitting the EOI documents through regd / speed post is 26.12.2023 by 5 P.M. The Submission of queries is by 5.00 PM of 08.12.2023. The technical bids will be opened on 28.12.2023 at 11 A.M. The Authority reserves the right to reject any / all proposals without assigning any reason thereof.

General Manager
OSAM Board, Bhubaneswar
CAD-3142 OIPR-01444/11/0013/2324

GOVT. OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF, WATER RESOURCES ODISHA, BHUBANESWAR
'e' Procurement Notice No.CEMKS 15 OF 2023-24

1. Name of the work : **Raising & strengthening of Arakhkuda Saline Embankment within RD 2.00 Km to 11.00 Km with construction of sluices.**
2. Amount put to Tender : Rs.21,06,05,297.00
3. Bid Document Cost : Rs.10, 000.00 (online)
4. E.M.D : Rs.21,06,100.00
5. Class of Contractor : "Special" Class & "Super" Class
6. Period of Completion : 18 calendar months
7. Other details are as follows.

Procurement Officer	Bid Idetification No.	Availability of Tender on- line for bidding From	To	Date of Opening of Technical Bid (Cover-1)
Chief Engineer & BM, Mahanadi Kathajodi System, Bhubaneswar	CEMKS PID 06 of 2023-24	06.12.2023 10.00hrs	20.12.2023 17.00hrs	21.12.2023 11.00 hrs

8. e-mail I d : celmbbbsr@yahoo.co.in
Further detail conditions can be seen from the Govt. website **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**
The Corrigenduml cancellation of Tender, if any, will be uploaded and can be seen from the above website only

Sd/- Chief Engineer & Basin Manager
Mahanadi Kathajodi System
Bhubaneswar
A-934 OIPR-32252/11/0019/2324

CHAMARAJANAGAR INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
Sy. No.124, Yadapura Village, Kasaba Hobli, Chamarajanagar - 571313.
No: CIMS/Tender/05/26/27/28/29/2023-24 Date: 21-11-2023

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Director & Dean, Chamarajanagar Institute of Medical Sciences, Chamarajanagar invite the tenders from eligible tenderers in TWO cover system through e-procurement for having,

1. Re-tender for Supply of Medical Equipment to Blood Bank of CIMS Teaching Hospital, Chamarajanagar (CIMS/Tender/BB/ME/05/2023-24/Call-4), Tender Value Rs. 44.40 lakhs, EMD Amount Rs. 91,000/-. Date and time for uploading the tender is from 24-11-2023 at 10.00 AM to 13-12-2023 up to 5.30 PM;
2. Tender for Supply of Medical Equipment to Dept. of Orthopedics of CIMS teaching hospital, Chamarajanagar (CIMS/Tender/ORME/26/2023-24), Tender Value Rs. 40.00 Lakhs, EMD Amount Rs. 80,000/-, Date and time for uploading the tender is from 24-11-2023 at 10.00AM to 13-12-2023 up to 5.30PM;
3. Tender for Supply of Medical Equipment to Dept. of ENT of CIMS teaching hospital, Chamarajanagar (CIMS/Tender/ENT/ME/27/2023-24), Tender Value Rs. 130.17 lakhs, EMD Amount Rs. 1,95,252/-. Date and time for uploading the tender is from 24-11-2023 at 10.00AM to 13-12-2023 up to 5.30PM;
4. Tender for Supply of Medical Equipment to Dept. of Physiology of CIMS, Chamarajanagar (CIMS/Tender/Physio/ME/28/2023-24), Tender Value Rs. 24.04 lakhs. EMD Amount Rs. 48,080/-. Date and time for uploading the tender is from 24-11-2023 at 10.00AM to 13-12-2023 up to 5.30PM; and
5. Tender for Supply of Reagents and Consumables to Dept. of Biochemistry Laboratory of CIMS teaching hospital, Chamarajanagar (CIMS/Tender/BRC/29/2023-24), Tender Value Rs. 47.03 lakhs. EMD Amount Rs. 94,057/-. Date and time for uploading the tender is from 24-11-2023 at 10.00AM to 13-12-2023 up to 5.30PM;

Any more details can be obtained from the website: www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in w.e.f 24-11-2023 or at office in all working days from 10.00AM to 5.00PM.

Sd/- Director and Dean,
Chamarajanagar Institute of Medical Sciences,
Chamarajanagar
DIPR:CHANAGAR:252:2023-24

Government of Karnataka
DEPARTMENT OF MINES & GEOLOGY
#49, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru-560001
E-mail: dir-mines@karnataka.gov.in

No. DMG-17012/2/2023-24 **Date: 04.12.2023**

NOTIFICATION AND NOTICE INVITING TENDER
"Invitation of bids for grant of Composite Licence for gold and bauxite blocks"

In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 11 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and in accordance with the Minerals (Evidence of Mineral Contents) Rules, 2015 and the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015 and amendments notified thereunder, the Government of Karnataka is conducting "second attempt" of following gold blocks for grant of Composite Licence through auction and hereby invites tenders for electronic auction.

List of mineral blocks for Composite License through auction

Sl. No.	Name of the block	District	Mineral	Concession Area (in Sq. Km)	Estimated Resources (in MMT)	Tender fee
1.	Bhagavati Gold Block	Bagalkote	Gold	14.85	-	INR 2,00,000/- + 18% GST
2.	Kenchanahalli Gold Block	Chikmagalur	Gold & Associated Minerals	40.80	-	INR 2,00,000/- + 18% GST

Any person, firm or company who satisfies the eligibility criteria can participate in the auction. Technical and financial bids for the above listed block are invited online. Apart from the online Technical Bids, bidders will have to submit duly executed original physical copies of their Technical Bids to the Tender Inviting Authority i.e. Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of DMG-17012/2/2023-DMG_MLS-DMG I/520609/2023 Karnataka.
Eligibility conditions, terms and conditions, date and time for participating in the electronic auction are provided in the Tender Document. Tender Documents, notifications, updates and other details for the e-auction process shall be available in electronic form only at the website of MSTC Ltd (http://www. mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/mlcl/index.jsp).
Interested and eligible bidders can register themselves at the above website. On successful registration, bidders will obtain login ID and password, which are necessary for participation in the e-auction process. Model Tender Document and summary of the block shall be available free of cost at the website of MSTC Limited **(http://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/mlcl/index.jsp).**
For participating in the bidding process, the registered bidders will have to purchase the block specific tender document at the website of MSTC Ltd as per fees mentioned in the table for each block.
The GST at the rate of 18% on the purchase of tender document shall be applicable. The GST applicable is to be paid by the prospective bidder itself under the **Reverse Charge Mechanism.** The prospective bidder shall be solely responsible for remitting the GST as per applicable law and statutory liability in this regard will be responsibility of prospective bidder and no liability whatsoever shall be borne by the DMG Karnataka /MSTC.
The sale of tender document shall commence from **05 December 2023.** Last date for sale of tender document at the website of MSTC Ltd is **08 January 2024.** Last date for submission of Technical Bids plus the Initial Price Offers at the website of MSTC Ltd is **16 January 2024** (up to 17:00 hours IST). Physical copies of the Technical Bids must reach the Tender Inviting Authority i.e. Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Karnataka by **17:00** hours IST on **16 January 2024**.

Sd/-
Director
DIPR/CP/2398/Zenkar/2022-23

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(RAICHUR THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919
No.: KPCL/2023-24/EL/WORK_INDENT276/CALL-4 Date: 29.11.2023

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System) (Through KPPP only)
Tenders are invited from reputed contractors/agencies through e-Portal (Website URL: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**) for the works of **"Retrofitting of Alstom make motor Protection relay with GE make Micom P241 numerical relay".** EMD: **Rs. 24,960/-.** The last date for submission of bids (Both Cover-1 & 2): **11.12.2023 up to 17.00 hrs.** Further details can be had from the Executive Engineer (HT-2), RTPS, KPCL, Shaktinagar-584170, Raichur District. Ph: 9449596528. e-mail: **eeht2rtps@gmail.com** Website: **https://kpcl.karnataka.gov.in**

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ, ಕಾರವಾರ
ಆಡಳಿತ ವೈದ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ತಾಲೂಕಾ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಮುಂಡಗೋಡ, ಜಿ॥ ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ
ದೂ: 08301–222553 ಇ–ಮೇಲ್: thmundagod@gmail.com
ಸಂ.ತಾ.ಸಾ.ಆ.ಮು/ಹೊ ಗು/178/2023–24 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 12–10–2023

ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

2023–24, 2024–25 ರ ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷದ ಅವಧಿಗೆ ತಾಲೂಕಾ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಮುಂಡಗೋಡ ಜಿ॥ ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗೆ ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಅರ್ಹ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯಿಂದ ನಾನ್ ಕ್ಲಿನಿಕಲ್ ಹಾಗು ಗ್ರೂಪ್ "ಡಿ" ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಪೂರೈಸಲು ಈ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ **ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂ: 08301–222553** ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ವಿಳಾಸ: **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳ ವಿವರ: ನಾನ್ ಕ್ಲಿನಿಕಲ್ ಹಾಗೂ ಗ್ರೂಪ್ 'ಡಿ' ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಪೂರೈಸಲು, ಟೆಂಡರ್:– ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್, ಪೂರೈಸಬೇಕಾದ ನಾನ್ ಕ್ಲಿನಿಕಲ್ ಹಾಗೂ ಗ್ರೂಪ್ 'ಡಿ' ಸೇವೆಯ ನೌಕರರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: **21**, ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ: **89,809=00**

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವೇಳಾ ಪಟ್ಟಿ: ವಿವರ: (1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 01–12–2023** (2) ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಪಾರಂಭಿಸುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 02–12–2023** (3) ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ: **18–12–2023 ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 4:00 ಘಂಟೆ** (4) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ & ಸಮಯ: **22–12–2023 ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 11:00 ಕ್ಕೆ** (5) ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ & ಸಮಯ: **24–12–2023 ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 3:00 ಕ್ಕೆ**

ಸಹಿ/– ಆಡಳಿತ ವೈದ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು,
ತಾಲೂಕಾ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಮುಂಡಗೋಡ (ಉ.ಕ)
DIPR/ADK/KSMCA/406/23-24 dt.02.12.2023

RAICHUR POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(YERAMARUS THERMAL POWER STATION)
(A JOINT VENTURE COMPANY OF KPCL & BHEL)
CIN : U40101KA2009PLC049582
No.EE(MSP)/YTPS/23-24/128 Dated: 01.12.2023

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Procurement portal only)

RPCL invites bids from reputed agencies for procurement of the following materials for YTPS through e-Procurement **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in for Procurement of (1)** KPCL/2023-24/IND0577/Call-2 dated:29.11.2023, **Contactors & relays. (2)** KPCL/2023-24/IND0559/Call-3, dated: 27.11.2023. **Self Sealing Graphite Rings for HP Boiler valves at YTPS. (3)** KPCL/2023-24/IND0666 dated: 27.11.2023. **Spares for RPG Elevators in CHP. (4)** KPCL/2023-24/IND0614/Call-2 dated:2 7.11.2023. **Control trailing power cable. (5)** KPCL/2023-24/ IND0515/Call-3 dated:25.11.2023. **IDCT Consumables at YTPS. (6)** KPCL/2023-24/IND0660 dated: 25.11.2023. **Expansion Metallic Bellows for YTPS. (7)** KPCL/2023-24/IND0662 dated: 25.11.2023. **Crusher hydraulic door opener spares. (8)** KPCL/2023-24/IND0661/dated:25.11.2023. **Crusher rotor spares. (9)** KPCL/2023-24/IND0658/dated:25.11.2023. **Crusher liner plates. (10)** KPCL/2023-24/IND0464/Call-3 dated:23.11.2023. **RTDs for IDCT Gear Box Oil Tempreture Measurement. (11)** KPCL/ 2023-24/IND0567/Call-2 dated: 23.11.2023. **Resistance Temperature Detectors-RTDs & Themocouple for Coal Mills of Unit 1&2 YTPS. (12)** KPCL/2023-24/IND0478/Call-3 dated: 22.11.2023. **SFU, MCB, MCCB & MPCB.** Last date & time for Bid submission: **(**Sl.No.5 & 6: **07.12.2023,16.00 hrs.) (**Sl.No.2, 7, 8, 9, 10,11,12**: 12.12.2023, 16.00 hrs.) (**Sl.No.4**: 13.12.2023, 16.00 hrs.) (**Sl.No.1 & 3**: 14.12.2023, 16.00 hrs.)** The brief bid notification containing detailed specification, pre-qualifying criteria for the bidders. Calendar of bid activites & other details can be accessed from GoK e-Procurement portal **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Further details can be had from the **Executive Engineer (MSP), RPCL, YTPS, Yermarus-584 134 Raichur. Mobile: 9480682892, e-Mail: eemsprpcl@gmail.com https://kpcl.karnataka.gov.in**

Civic victory

The Zoram People's Movement captured the imagination of change seekers

A cursory look at the vote shares obtained by political parties in Mizoram – the victorious Zoram People's Movement (ZPM) garnered 37.9%, the incumbent Mizo National Front (MNF) 35.1%, the Congress 20.8% and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) 5.1% – suggests that the ZPM managed to win a clear majority, 27 out of the 40 seats, because of a fractured mandate. Yet, that will only be a limited reading as the regional party also upended a 36-year-old duopoly in the State with power rotating between the MNF and the Congress. Defeating the MNF was not easy either, as the Zoramthanga-led party had assiduously sought to promote ethnic nationalism by projecting its solidarity with the Kuki-Zo tribals in Manipur and the Chin people in neighbouring Myanmar, both of whom are mired in different conflicts. The Congress meanwhile tried to woo the voters in the predominantly Christian State by harping on the fact that the regional parties are prospective allies of the Hindutva-promoting BJP, especially the MNF which is part of the BJP-led North East Democratic Alliance. That a plurality of voters – more than a third of the 8.6 lakh strong electorate in India's second least populous State – sought to look beyond the politics of ethnic nationalism or the communitarian appeals and endorsed the ZPM suggests that its call for a corruption-free regime and an agenda of governance with the interests of the youth at the core had a decisive number of takers.

The ZPM was successful in projecting itself as a force for change as it got popular members from Mizoram's civil society to endorse the party, with even some to represent it as candidates. This gave a decisive heft to the party led by former IPS officer and presumptive Chief Minister Lalduhoma. With the ZPM coming to power on its own, it will be easier for it to remain true to its quasi-movement ideals, but it will receive overtures from the BJP (which won two seats) to accommodate the latter in a coalition. The ZPM will have to work out a delicate balance in achieving its goals of clean and independent governance even while seeking to build on the State's relationship with the Union government. Smaller States, especially those in the North East, have limited avenues of resource mobilisation and are too dependent upon the Union government for their finances. Mizoram, for example, has among the highest Union transfers to revenue receipts ratios in the country – 85.7%. If the ZPM can focus on ways to diversify the economy beyond agriculture, into areas such as eco-friendly tourism, and value-added services leveraging its population's high literacy rate and education, it can live up to its promise of decisive change in the State.

Needless diversion

Venezuela should not escalate territorial disputes with Guyana

Venezuela's move to hold a referendum on whether it should exercise sovereignty over Essequibo, a vast, oil-rich disputed region that is now part of neighbouring Guyana, has cut open old wounds and inflamed tensions between the South American nations. According to Venezuela's electoral authorities, more than 95% of the voters supported the country's claim. It is not clear what the government of President Nicolás Maduro is going to do next, but the fact that he held the referendum with just months left for the next presidential election suggests the leftist leader might keep the border tensions alive. Venezuela has always retained claims over Essequibo, which it says was stolen when the north-south border was drawn by colonial powers over a century ago. In 1966, Venezuela and the U.K. entered into a temporary Geneva Agreement on the border (Guyana was a British colony) to maintain the status quo while seeking to find a practical, peaceful and satisfactory solution for all. Tensions eased when Hugo Chávez, Mr. Maduro's leftist predecessor, was the President. But when an oil boom began transforming Guyana's economy, Mr. Maduro's regime started becoming more vocal about the country's claims over the region.

Guyana, the only English speaking country in Latin America, maintains that the 1899 border agreement between international arbitrators (from Britain, Russia and the U.S.) is final and approached the International Court of Justice in 2018, requesting a ruling. Venezuela on the other side has always argued that it was not part of the 1899 agreement, which it calls null and void. When Guyana moved the world court requesting a ban on the referendum, the court refused to do so but asked Caracas not to take any action based on the referendum altering the status quo. But Mr. Maduro has already dismissed the world court's jurisdiction over the dispute. He is under growing international pressure to hold free elections. Recently, the U.S. eased sanctions on Venezuela as the Maduro government reached a deal with the opposition for next year's election. While Mr. Maduro retains a tight grip over state institutions, he is also unpopular with sections who are increasingly frustrated with the state of the economy, particularly shortages of essentials, and hyperinflation. While a border crisis could be a welcome distraction for him from domestic woes as elections are approaching, it does not offer any solution to the myriad crises that the oil-rich South American country is facing. If anything, a border conflict would make the situation worse. Mr. Maduro should refrain from taking any unilateral action and continue to try and resolve the territorial issues with Guyana through talks in the true spirit of the Geneva Agreement.

A dark shadow on New Delhi's credibility

Suhasini Haidar

In the shadowy world of espionage, intelligence and covert operations, the only rule is to never get caught carrying out a mission. In the more visible world of public diplomacy, the only rule is to never get caught telling a lie or denying what might turn out to be true. The recent publication of a United States Department of Justice indictment against an Indian national for targeting wanted Khalistani separatists in North America, at the behest of a government official who may or may not have been acting alone, is as yet an unproven allegation that must stand trial, but is one that has nonetheless cast a dark shadow on New Delhi's credibility in terms of both covert capacity and public messaging, which must be addressed.

Other operations in the limelight

The indictment also comes on the heels of a number of intelligence operations that have been challenged in courts in other friendly countries in recent years: from the forcible return of a United Arab Emirates princess, Latifah, by the Indian Coast Guard in international waters in 2018 that has been criticised by a court in the United Kingdom, to the "attempted kidnap" of businessman-on-the-run Mehul Choksi from Antigua to Dominica by British nationals alleged to have been working for Indian agencies in 2021, and the conviction of eight former Indian naval officers in Qatar for espionage, which is now in appeal. While the extra-judicial military court trial against former Indian naval officer Kulbhushan Jadhav in Pakistan since 2016 has been challenged by India at the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the fact that he was operating his business from Iran, a friendly neighbour, has no doubt been noted. Meanwhile, the circulation of a list of alleged operations against wanted Khalistani and Pakistani operatives not just in Pakistan but also in Nepal, Italy, the United Kingdom and Thailand, has been hailed in the media as proof of the Indian security establishment's global reach. It must be remembered that the government has so far not accepted that it ordered any of these operations, but is not averse to the larger narrative that security agencies have been "empowered" to carry them out.

It is in this context that the government must engage with the troubling questions thrown up by the latest allegations – by the U.S. of a conspiracy to murder Gurpatwant Singh Pannun in New York, that also indicates a link to the murder of Hardeep Singh Nijjar in Canada, and the direct allegation by Canada, made by its Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on the Nijjar killing. To begin with, the text of the American indictment unravels two conspiracies – one carried out by the Indian who has been indicted, Nikhil Gupta, who was allegedly directed by a senior government intelligence official, and the other carried out by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Drug Enforcement Administration, to entrap him by providing an undercover officer to him as the hitman. The fact that the U.S. government did not share all that it knew with India questions the claims made otherwise that the two countries have, between them, reached the pinnacle of security cooperation this year. To not have shared them even when Mr. Trudeau made his statement in Parliament might have spared New Delhi the blushes when the details of the U.S. indictment were published. Instead, despite two meetings between U.S. President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, four between Minister of External Affairs S. Jaishankar and U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, and several between National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit Doval and his U.S. counterpart NSA Jake Sullivan, as well as Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and Intelligence chiefs, the U.S. appears to have cautioned India, but not revealed the full extent of information it had gathered.

> The lasting impact of the episode of the American indictment against an Indian national will lie in the image India wishes to project to the world

Trust is still an issue

For the U.S., it is also obvious that it does not trust the information India has shared on Mr. Pannun, Nijjar and the Khalistani separatist movement, and hence is more focused on the plot against them than it is on curbing their activities. For India, given India's deep concerns with Mr. Pannun's radical rhetoric, even broadcasting a threat against Air India flights, and threats to diplomats and embassies, the U.S.'s actions are a breach of trust.

The actions hark back to the nature of intelligence sharing in 2008, when the U.S. warned India about the impending 26/11 terror threat (November 2008 Mumbai attacks), but did not divulge that the source of the information was Lashkar-e-Taiba operative David Coleman Headley, who even re-entered India with another diabolical plan in 2009. After the U.S. arrested Headley, it entered a plea bargain, that meant the man who decided the targets and planned the attacks to precision could never be brought to justice in India, and the government was forced to take his testimony via video-camera for the trial.

What this indicates is that while bilateral ties and strategic ties are growing in different spheres, trust between both countries has not kept apace. While much commentary is focused in the short term on whether Mr. Biden will confirm his attendance at the Republic Day parade and the Quad summit (Australia, India, Japan and U.S.) in January, it is the impact on the longer arc of the relationship that both sides must focus on.

By extension, South Block must also look at the impact of its actions among western allies including the "Five Eyes" intelligence partnership (Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the U.K. and the U.S.). By rejecting Canadian allegations outright, expelling diplomats and suspending visas, while accepting the U.S.'s allegations more calmly and setting up a high-level inquiry to investigate them, New Delhi has demonstrated a double standard in its international engagements. The difference between India's reactions to Khalistani protests, and the attempted firebombing of the San Francisco consulate, to protests in the U.K., Australia and Canada is also stark: while their envoys have been summoned and Mr. Modi has publicly raised the Khalistan issue and protection of Indian-origin minorities with their leaders, the government has been more discreet in its concerns with the U.S. Conversely, there is a well-recorded double standard from the West when it comes to extra-judicial covert operations and assassinations – the CIA, MI6 and Mossad have often eliminated those they see as a threat on foreign shores, while sanctioning Russia for the Skripal attacks, Saudi Arabia for the Khashoggi killing, and publicly shaming India over the alleged claims on Mr. Pannun and Nijjar, and all Five Eye nations including New Zealand have issued statements criticising India for its actions against Canada. While such double standards are as old as time, it is significant that they have not been whittled down by the significant strengthening of the India-U.S. relationship, billed as the "most consequential partnership of the century".

Impact on the neighbourhood

Further afield, India must address the impact of the case on the neighbourhood. Countries such as Sri Lanka and Bangladesh stood with India on the Canada issue, but as details of the U.S. indictment are revealed, South Asian capitals, and not just Islamabad, will be studying the footprint of Indian agencies in their countries as well. South Block and its embassies in the neighbourhood will have to go the extra mile to assure the neighbours, especially in Kathmandu, Dhaka, Male and Colombo, where reports about India's "hand" in domestic politics is often discussed in exaggerated tones.

Eventually, the lasting impact of the episode will lie in the image India wishes to project to the world – as a "hard power" that is willing to risk international ire and ties in pursuing those it considers a threat in any corner of the world in any manner it deems fit. Or that of an adherent to international law that builds its case through its diplomats, turning global opinion in its favour to achieve its ends, albeit at the risk of being seen as a "soft power". The Ministry of External Affairs has said categorically that covert, extra-judicial assassinations are not this government's policy and that the allegations will be investigated. A deeper investigation would reveal whether India's actions align with its values and interests.

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The Congress's great resurgence in Telangana

K. Venkateshwarlu

is a senior journalist

In a way it was a case of sweet revenge for the Congress. The national party had to wait for nearly a decade to reap the full benefits of carving out Telangana in 2014, having been outfoxed all the way by a regional party, the Telangana Rashtra Samithi which renamed itself the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS).

The Congress crossed the magic figure of 60 in style (the Telangana Assembly has 119 seats) – it won 65 seats – though no optimistic political pundit would have given the party a chance to touch this number even a year ago. Going by its past performance in the last Assembly elections in 2018, it had to cover a whopping 14 percentage point difference in vote share with the BRS. Though it appeared quite challenging, the party breached the wall of invincibility built by the BRS and cut short its ambitions of going national.

It is a great resurgence by all accounts, with the Congress picking up the momentum gained from Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra in 2022 and also infusing some dynamism by banking on a fresh face, the relatively younger A. Revanth Reddy, to lead the party in the State. Having moved from the Telugu Desam Party, Mr. Revanth Reddy was not a quintessential Congressman. Overcoming the 'outsider' image and the anticipated resistance from the old guard, his style of targeting Chief Minister, K. Chandrasekhar Rao, by launching never-ending attacks on him, seemed to have helped the party in good measure.

Where the BRS faltered

If the Congress was made battle-ready by Mr. Revanth Reddy's aggressive approach, strong anti-incumbency and voter fatigue topped by corruption and land grabbing charges faced by 30 to 40 MLAs of the ruling party (the BRS) made the Congress's success appear much easier. Conversely, Mr. Chandrasekhar Rao's "bold" and early decision of fielding, barring seven, all sitting MLAs (even those with a dubious track record) appears to have triggered the party's debacle.

> The party has had to wait for almost a decade to breach the wall of invincibility built by the Bharat Rashtra Samithi

Mr. Chandrasekhar Rao was hoping to score a hat trick of three consecutive terms on the strength of his carefully cultivated image of a messiah who not only secured Telangana through his struggle but as one who pioneered a slew of cash transfer schemes such as Rythu Bandhu, Dalit Bandhu, Aasara, Kalyana Lakshmi, and Shaadi Mubarak, covering virtually all sections of society. But his government claims of 'saturation coverage' had gaping holes, with those left out expressing their resentment by alleging that most of these benefits were cornered by the supporters of the BRS.

The angriest of the lot were the youth who felt that the BRS government had not done enough to create employment for them in the last 10 years. They recalled that government jobs was one of the contentious issues that sparked the demand for a separate Telangana – but, ironically, a party that won two terms failed to address it. Sensing early, the slow but steady wave building against the BRS government, the Congress coined the slogan vote for change to "liberate Telangana from a corrupt family rule", and offered a better package of cash transfer schemes through its 'six guarantees'. It ended up being rewarded handsomely.

For all his well-thought out vote-catching schemes – even if it meant a big strain on State finances – and riding on Telangana sentiment, his unchallenged 10-year tenure made Mr. Chandrasekhar Rao overconfident. Many feel that he did not pay heed to growing criticism that he had become "too arrogant" and "inaccessible even to his own partymen"; that he ran the administration from his home, Pragati Bhavan or farm house rather than Secretariat, and had systematically side-lined co-travellers of the Telangana movement while suppressing those protesting against his policies. Not realising that a decade was moving by, he continued to depend on Telangana sentiment to bail him out.

Constituency-wise wins and leads show that the Congress having done exceedingly well both in North Telangana and South Telangana while the BRS's performance was better in the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation limits. Apparently the infrastructure push to Hyderabad, development projects around the Nehru Outer Ring Road and a solid vote from people from Andhra Pradesh who settled down in and around the city, have all gone in the BRS's favour.

On player three, the BJP

The third player, the Bharatiya Janata Party, has vastly improved its vote share but its ambition of making inroads into southern India have again come to a grinding halt. As in Karnataka, the BJP initially banked on communal polarisation constantly picking up issues such as the controversial Bhagyalakshmi temple at the iconic Charminar, the role of the Razakars during the last Nizam's rule and "appeasement of minorities".

The sudden change of guard at the State level, from a rabble-rousing Other Backward Classes Member of Parliament Bandi Sanjay Kumar to a softer Union Minister, G. Kishan Reddy, led to perception that it was done to defeat the Congress and help the BRS. The reverse happened as it helped the Congress with Mr. Gandhi making "this secret understanding", among the BRS-All-India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (MIM)-BJP a forceful campaign point. This perception, it appears, made Muslim minorities gravitate towards the Congress in seats other than the nine contested by the AIMIM. The AIMIM won its seven seats.

A significant feature of the Assembly elections in Telangana was the absence of a virulent campaign of seeking votes on communal polarisation though Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister, Yogi Adityanath did try to up the ante a bit by reiterating the BJP's promise to change Hyderabad's name to Bhagyanagar. Otherwise, competitive 'welfarism' took centre stage, forcing even the "anti-*revdi*" BJP to join the bandwagon and offer more cash transfers.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Results, the lessons

The spectacular win for the Bharatiya Janata Party ("BJP sweeps Hindi belt, Cong. bags Telangana", December 4) highlights its strategy too — that party members are good at working decisively and cohesively towards a specific objective, regardless of the role assigned to them by the party high command. Had this type of 'demotion' happened in any other party in our country, it might have well resulted in tremendous aggravation in an inner party squabble, perhaps leading to disastrous consequences. One hopes the Opposition learns a lesson or two about how to work together with dedication without anticipating benefits — which is a tall order, of course.

A. Venkatasubramanian,
Tiruchi, Tamil Nadu

While a lot of credit is (duly) being given to the Prime Minister for the BJP's sweeping victories in this round of the Assembly elections, one cannot help wondering whether the overzealous role played by him stands the test of political morality.

If the Prime Minister of a nation traverses its length and breadth in order to make a political statement in support of his party, is not the dignity of his high office compromised? When the Prime Minister himself gets down to campaigning, it does upset the level-playing field to quite an extent. It also indicates that he is the linchpin of his party and that the BJP is bereft of a State-level leadership upon whose shoulders can be placed the onus of State-level campaigning.

Avinash Godboley,
Dewas, Madhya Pradesh

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Winds of change in Telangana

While the Congress gained back some of its older support base in the State, the BRS was not completely routed, and the BJP is on the rise

Telangana Congress chief A. Revanth Reddy and supporters celebrate the party's victory in the Assembly elections, in Hyderabad. PTI

Sandeep Shastri, Suhas Palshikar, Sanjay Kumar & Vageeshan Harathi

The defeat of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), which was at the forefront of the movement for statehood, and the victory of the Congress in Telangana shows a shift in the mood of voters away from the emotional sentiment of State formation to key issues of governance and administration.

Three key factors appear to have paved the way for the exit of the BRS. One, popular perceptions of corruption in the government. Two, unhappiness with family rule. And three, only a limited section of society has gained from the government's key welfare schemes.

The vote share difference between the Congress and the BRS is a mere 2 percentage points (Table 1). Yet, there was a sharp decline in the vote share of the BRS (by over 9 percentage points) and a dramatic increase in the vote share of the Congress (close to 11 points). The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)'s vote share has doubled in 2023 compared to the previous elections (from 7% to 14%).

The Lokniti-CSDS survey data indicate that more than seven of every 10 respondents felt that the K. Chandrashekar Rao-led government was involved in corruption during the last five years. Close to half the respondents (46%) believed that corruption had increased under the BRS government. The BRS was seen as more corrupt than the Congress and the BJP.

On the question of family rule, 52% rated the BRS in comparison to the Congress and BJP as being representative of this trend.

A large number of respondents mentioned that they did not benefit from many of the welfare schemes of the government. Close to eight of every 10 respondents (79%) did not benefit from the Telangana 2BHK Housing Scheme, close to half (51%) did not secure the KCR Kit, and half (50%) did not benefit from the fee reimbursement promised. Nearly half the respondents (48%) said that they did not benefit from the Aarogyasri scheme and 47% said that they did not benefit from the Kalyana Laxmi scheme. A majority of the respondents said that they benefited from the pension scheme (51%). So, what the BRS perceived as its flagship schemes appear to have benefited a small segment of voters.

Further, 34% reported that they perceived an increase in unemployment in the last five years.

Table 2: Voting pattern across demographics (%)

	Party voted for…		
	Cong.	BRS	BJP
Age group			
Up to 25 years	41	33	14
56 years and above	38	48	9
Level of education			
Non-literate	40	47	8
Graduate and above	38	30	18
Locality			
Rural	46	41	8
Urban	30	33	22
Economic class			
Poor	42	41	12
Lower	43	38	11
Middle	40	35	14
Rich	33	37	19

Linked to the above three factors, the Congress managed to put together a winning social coalition. Among the young aspirational voters, the Congress had an 8 point advantage over the BRS. It also had an 8 point advantage over the BRS among voters with better access to education (Table 2). The Congress performed much better than the BRS in rural areas (5 points ahead), while the BRS was ahead in urban areas (3 points). In urban areas, the BJP captured 22% of the votes, while its share of votes in rural areas was just 8%. The Congress did much better than the BRS among the lower class and middle-class voters, while the BRS did better among the affluent sections of society.

Table 1: How parties performed in 2023 Assembly elections in Telangana

Party	Seats won in 2023	Seats Change Over 2018	Vote (%) in 2023	Vote Change Over 2018
Congress	64	45	39.4	10.97
BRS	39	-49	37.35	-9.52
BJP	8	7	13.9	6.92
AIMIM	7	NIL	2.22	-0.49
Others	1	-3	7.13	-7.88

> More than seven of every 10 respondents felt that the K. Chandrashekar Rao-led government was involved in corruption during the last five years

Table 3: Region-wise party performance

Regions	Total	BRS		Congress		AIMIM		BJP	
	Seats	Won	Vote (%)	Won	Vote (%)	Won	Vote (%)	Won	Vote (%)
North	51	10	34.64	33	41.26	0	0	7	15.66
South	43	13	39.29	30	45.86	0	0	0	7.69
Hyderabad	25	16	38.97	1	25.53	7	9.79	1	20.92

Note: Rest voted for other parties.

Table 4: How different caste and communities voted? (%)

	Party voted for…		
	Congress	BRS	BJP
Reddy	49	34	11
Other upper caste	31	37	26
Yadava, Golla, Kuruma	51	33	12
Mudiraj, Mutraju, Tenugollu	41	44	14
Gowda, Gavalla	49	37	13
Other OBC	36	37	18
Dalit	38	41	8
Lambadi	52	40	4
Other STs	38	48	9
Muslims*	32	35	2

25% voted for AIMIM

As shown in Table 3, in the Greater Hyderabad region, the BRS won 16 of the 25 seats and the All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) won 7. The Congress and the BJP won only one seat each. The Congress's victory was on account of its performance in north and south Telangana. The BJP bagged most of its seats in north Telangana (7 of 8 seats).

The Congress secured close to half the influential Reddy votes and was ahead of the BRS among the Yadavs and a segment of the Scheduled Tribes (Lambadis). The BRS and Congress secured one-third each of the Muslim vote, while the AIMIM secured one-fourth. The BRS performed well among the non-Reddy upper castes, the Scheduled Castes, and non-Lambadi STs. The BJP won one-fourth of the non-Reddy upper caste vote (Table 4).

While the Congress gained back some of its older support base, the BRS was not completely routed, and the BJP is on the rise.

Thus, this outcome might only be a momentary transition. Much will depend upon how politics unfolds in the times to come.

The methodology used

The findings presented here are from the Telangana voting behaviour study 2023 conducted by the Lokniti programme of the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS), Delhi. The survey was conducted between November 25 and December 1, 2023. A total of 3,097 voters spread across 120 polling stations in randomly selected 30 Assembly constituencies were interviewed for the survey.

The multi-stage systematic random sampling (SRS) design was adopted. The Assembly constituencies were randomly selected using the probability proportional to size method. Thereafter, four polling stations within each of the sampled Assembly constituencies were selected using the SRS method.

In each polling station, 40 voters were randomly sampled from the electoral roll using the SRS method and 25 respondents were interviewed. The interviews were conducted face-to-face at electors' homes by specially trained field investigators, mostly students from various colleges and universities. The questionnaire for the survey was translated into Telugu. Each interview took 15-20 minutes.

Though the sample is relatively small, the total number of voters interviewed represent the social reality of the voters of the State, i.e. the sample is truly representative of the voters of Telangana with regard to social composition. To make correction for under-representation of any social groups, weights have been applied.

BRS voted out despite voters' favourable opinion on governance

Avika Singh & Rahul Wetson

The 2023 Assembly elections highlighted the nuanced preferences of the electorate, with both the BRS and the Congress making strides in different voter segments.

CSDS-Lokniti's post-poll survey shows that the voters gave greater importance to the State government's performance than the Central government's, in the Telangana elections. Four in 10 emphasised the work done by the K. Chandrashekar Rao government in comparison to the work done by the Centre under Narendra Modi (Table 1). Moreover, the data show that the overall satisfaction with the performance of the BRS government among was moderately high. Overall, two-thirds of the voters (67%) were satisfied with the work done by the BRS government. Of them, two in every 10 (21%) were fully satisfied and little less than half (46%) said they were somewhat satisfied (Table 2).

When voters were asked about one initiative of the Rao government that they liked the most, the provisions for drinking water and electricity supply and the alleviation of farmer distress (15 % each) fared as the most popular (Table 3). Moreover, voters indicated an overall improvement in the condition of public infrastructure under BRS rule (Table 5).

An analysis of electorate sentiment revealed that over half the respondents believed that the prices of essential commodities had surged in the last five years (Table 4). Moreover, a recurring concern of the voters was the decline in the number of employment opportunities available. Thus, it can be inferred that economic issues played a vital role in the State elections.

Despite the voters having a favourable opinion of the BRS, the Congress managed to secure a substantial vote bank in the State. Not only did the Congress consolidate its base among those unhappy with BRS rule, but it also managed to do so among those who were moderately satisfied with the State government – 38% of such voters chose to vote for the Congress compared to the 37% who voted the BRS in this segment (Table 2).

The party was also successful in securing substantial support from those who observed improvements in public infrastructure in the last five years (Table 5). It is imperative to note that the lead secured by the BRS in the vote choice among those who favoured the party's initiatives was negligible as the Congress was close behind in terms of support.

Table 1: For voters, work done by the State government mattered more

KCR's work or Modi's?	(%)
Work done by KCR govt.	41
Work done by Modi govt.	21
Both governments	18

Note: The rest either mentioned something else or did not respond.

Question asked: In the Telangana Assembly elections, what mattered to you the most, is it the work done by the KCR government or the work of the Narendra Modi government?

Table 3: Most popular initiatives of the KCR government

Initiatives	(%)
Drinking water	15
Electricity	15
Alleviating farmer distress	15
Tackling issues of development	7
Better infrastructure	7
Poverty alleviation	6

Note: The rest mentioned other initiatives

Question asked: What is the one initiative of the KCR government which you liked the most?

Table 2: Those who were moderately satisfied with BRS govt. voted for Congress

Level of satisfaction with State government	(%)	Vote choice		
		Congress	BRS	BJP
Fully satisfied	21	11	81	3
Somewhat satisfied	46	38	37	15
Somewhat dissatisfied	16	57	15	17
Fully dissatisfied	15	62	3	23

Noted: All figures are in percent. The rest voted for other parties.

Question asked: Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the performance of the BRS government in Telangana over the last five years?

Table 4: Voters feel that prices have increased while jobs have reduced

	Increased	Decreased
Prices of essential commodities	52	34
Unemployment	65	13

Noted: All figures are in percent. The rest either felt that these things have remained the same or did not respond.

Table 5: Congress securing support of those who saw improvements in public infrastructure under BRS

	Improved (Overall)	Vote choice		
		Cong.	BRS	BJP
Supply of electricity	88	38	39	14
Supply of drinking water	80	39	41	12
Condition of roads	65	35	45	12
Irrigation facilities	60	39	44	11
Condition of govt. hospitals	52	33	48	12
Condition of govt. schools	42	30	52	11

Note: All figures are in percent. The rest voted for other parties.

Question asked: Have these improved or worsened in your area in the last five years?

The perception of corruption

Vibha Attri & Priyanka Mittal

The political atmosphere during the Telangana Assembly elections was marked by accusations from the Congress and the BJP against the BRS government. The K. Chandrashekar Rao-led government was alleged to be involved in corruption throughout its tenure. The findings of the CSDS-Lokniti post-poll study indicate that corruption emerged as a prominent source of dissatisfaction for the voters.

Approximately half the voters in the State felt that corruption had increased over the past five years. Only about a quarter believed that there was a decrease in corruption. Two in 10 voters felt that there was no change in corruption in the last five years (Table 1). Public discontent can also be gleaned from the fact that the issue of corruption was ranked as the second most unacceptable action of the BRS government. One in 10 voters identified this issue as a significant concern.

When voters were specifically questioned about their opinions on the Rao government in Telangana and the Modi government at the Centre, a significant majority levelled a charge of corruption against both the governments. Seven of every 10 (70%) voters perceived corruption within the State government (they said it was either very corrupt or somewhat corrupt), while the corresponding figure for the Central government was lower at 61% (Table 2).

This shared perception of corruption regarding both the Rao-led government in Telangana and the BJP-led government at the Centre could have played a crucial role in benefiting the Congress. This sentiment is reflected in the electors' vote choices as well. Nearly half (46%) of those who believed that corruption had increased voted in favour of the Congress. In contrast, the BRS and the BJP secured a distant second and third place as the choices for these voters (Table 3). For those voters who believed that corruption had decreased, the BRS emerged as the preferred choice.

Additionally, the Congress was perceived as making the most efforts to reduce corruption. In response to a separate question about which party had done the most to combat corruption, one-third (33%) of the respondents mentioned the Congress, with a little over one-fourth (29%) mentioning the BRS. The BJP was reported by one-sixth of the voters (16%) (Table 4).

The data show that corruption had an impact on voter choices. The perception of corruption in the BRS and BJP governments, coupled with the attribution of anti-corruption efforts to the Congress, played a significant role in shaping voters' preferences towards Congress.

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi visits Medigadda Barrage, which is a part of the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme in Telangana. The Congress alleged that there was corruption in the project. ANI

Table 1: Close to half the voters feel corruption in Telangana has increased

Corruption has…..	(%)
Increased	46
Remained the same	20
Decreased	27

Note: Rest did not respond.

Question asked: Has corruption increased or decreased in Telangana during the last five years?

Table 4: Congress seen to be doing the most to reduce corruption

Role in tackling corruption	(%)
Congress	33
BRS	29
BJP	16

Note: The rest mentioned other parties.

Question asked: Which party do you think has done the most to reduce corruption in Telangana?

Table 2: Which government according to voters is more corrupt?

	Very corrupt	Somewhat corrupt	Not very corrupt	Not at all corrupt
KCR Govt.	36	34	11	8
Modi Govt.	21	40	13	13

Note: All figures are in percent. The rest did not respond.

Question asked: To what extent are the KCR government in the State and Modi government at the Centre involved in corruption?

Table 3: Perception that corruption has increased cost BRS

Corruption in Telangana has…	Vote choice		
	Congress	BRS	BJP
Increased	46	29	15
Decreased	35	44	14

Note: All figures are in percent. The rest voted for other parties.

LOKNITI-CSDS SURVEY

Why KCR could not stop the Congress in Telangana

Emergence of Revanth Reddy, perception that BRS is more corrupt than Congress, and dissatisfaction with State govt.'s performance are some factors that contributed to Rao failing to return to power

Abhinav Pankaj Borbora & T. Venkatesh

The outcome of the Assembly poll in Telangana means that K. Chandrashekhar Rao would have to hand over the reins of India's youngest State to someone else. Since the days of the Statehood agitation, KCR has come to be regarded as the foremost leader of the State. Despite this, he could not mobilise the people of Telangana to vote for the BRS as much as he would have liked in this election. The survey by Lokniti-CSDS throws light on the reasons for this.

One of the factors was the emergence of State Congress chief Revanth Reddy as a leader who could match up to KCR's popularity. It is significant to note that while 29% of voters wanted KCR as the next Chief Minister, another 29% favoured Reddy.

Among women voters, 31% preferred KCR, while Reddy was close behind with 26% (Table 1). The Congress leader also managed to build a strong appeal among young voters. Among voters under 25 years, 32% wanted him as CM as opposed to 28% who stood with KCR. Among voters who were 56 years and above, 37% wanted KCR to continue as Chief Minister for another term.

Among the Reddys, 38% wanted the Congress leader to be the next CM, while 25% preferred KCR. Preference for KCR was higher among Dalits and Adivasis, but Reddy did not trail by far. Among Muslims, 33% favoured KCR while 23% wanted Reddy (Table 3).

K. Chandrashekhar Rao addressing a rally in Kamareddy, where he faced defeat in the election. PTI

As the leader of the Statehood agitation, KCR remains popular among those who believe that the creation of Telangana has greatly helped satisfy popular expectations. A total of 60% of such voters preferred KCR over Reddy. But close to half the voters (45%) felt that Statehood only somewhat addressed the issues of people.

Among voters in this group, 29% wanted KCR as Chief Minister while, quite importantly, another 29% turned to Reddy (Table 4).

The performance of the State government also appears to have motivated voters to turn away from KCR. Only voters who were fully satisfied with the government's performance favoured KCR. Even among those who were moderately satisfied with its work, 29% wanted to see Reddy as the next CM (Table 5).

As a matter of fact, the CM face was not an important consideration for voters in this election. Only 14% were influenced by this factor. While 38% made up their voting decision by assessing their respective MLA candidates, for 32%, political parties were the most important consideration (Table 6).

Given the importance placed on parties, voters were likely to side with the one that they perceived to be better. Close to half the voters felt that the BRS was more corrupt compared to the Congress. More than half viewed the BRS to be more nepotistic compared to the Congress.

With regard to Telangana's development, the BRS was regarded to be better, but the Congress was close behind. The Congress also was considered to be better than the BRS for representing the marginalised communities. Therefore, the Congress appeared to be the better party in the eyes of voters.

Abhinav Pankaj Borbora is a researcher at Lokniti-CSDS, and T. Venkatesh is a doctoral candidate at the University of Hyderabad

Table 1: Gender-wise preference for Chief Minister

	Preference as Chief Minister (in %)	
Gender	K. Chandrashekhar Rao	Revanth Reddy
Men	28	32
Women	31	26

Note: The rest mentioned other names.
Question asked: Who would you prefer as the next Chief Minister of Telangana?

Table 2: Revanth Reddy the preferred choice among the youth

	Preference as Chief Minister (in %)	
Age group	K. Chandrashekhar Rao	Revanth Reddy
Up to 25 years	28	32
26-35 years	26	32
36-45 years	31	27
46-55 years	29	27
56 years and above	37	28

Note: The rest mentioned other names.
Question asked: Who would you prefer as the next Chief Minister of Telangana?

Table 3: Preference for Chief Minister according to community

Caste	K. Chandrashekhar Rao	Revanth Reddy
Reddy	25	38
Dalits	31	26
Adivasi	39	34
Muslims	33	23

Note: All figures are in percentage
Question asked: Who would you prefer as the next Chief Minister of Telangana?

Table 4: Diminishing returns for KCR on issue of Telangana's Statehood

Extent to which Statehood satisfied people's expectations	Preference as Chief Minister (in %)	
	K. Chandrashekhar Rao	Revanth Reddy
Very much (18)	60	12
Somewhat (45)	29	29
Not much (20)	14	40
Not at all (10)	7	41

Note: The figures within brackets denote opinion about the extent to which Telangana's Statehood satisfied popular expectations.
Question asked: Who would you prefer as the next CM of Telangana?

Table 5: Only voters fully satisfied want KCR, those moderately satisfied equally prefer Reddy

Satisfaction with State government	Preference as Chief Minister (in %)	
	K. Chandrashekhar Rao	Revanth Reddy
Fully satisfied (21)	69	7
Somewhat satisfied (46)	28	29
Somewhat dissatisfied (16)	9	40
Fully dissatisfied (15)	3	47

Note: The rest mentioned other names. The figures within brackets denote opinion about the extent to which voters are satisfied or dissatisfied with the performance of State government.
Question asked: Who would you prefer as the next CM of Telangana?

Table 6: Why KCR could not help BRS win

Most important consideration while voting	(%)
MLA candidate	38
Party	32
CM candidate	14
Party manifesto	10
PM candidate	3

Note: The rest either considered other factors or did not respond.
Question asked: What is the most important consideration for you while voting in these elections?

Blend of strategies key factor behind Congress triumph

Devesh Kumar & Rishikesh Yadav

The creditable victory of the Congress in Telangana stands as a testament to its adept voter outreach model , with campaign strategists enhancing their digital and offline presence.

Data from the Lokniti-CSDS survey reveal the Congress (52%) and the BRS (52%) boasting equal figures in virtual voters' outreach programmes via phone calls and recorded voice messages. The BJP (44%) closely followed suit, while the BSP trailed behind at 10% (Table 1). The Congress (78%) excelled in the outreach programme, too, with its workers visiting more voters' homes compared to the BRS (76%), while the BJP trailed behind at 63% (Table 2).

An intriguing pattern also emerged among voters who participated in election campaigns (38%), attended rallies (30%), and engaged in door-to-door canvassing (25%). These voters exhibited a higher inclination to vote in favour of the Congress over the BRS (*Table 3*).

The Congress approach, blending online and on-ground strategies, played a decisive role in its win.

Devesh Kumar and Rishikesh Yadav are researchers at Lokniti-CSDS

Table 1: Cong. and BRS had the widest digital outreach

Parties that contacted voters through calls and messages	(%)
Congress	52
BRS	50
BJP	44
BSP	10
AIMIM	6

Note: The rest were either not contacted or did not respond.
Question asked: Did anyone from these parties contact you through phone calls, recorded voice calls, political messages during this election?

Table 2: Cong. reached most homes to ask for votes

Party affiliation of those who visited the voter	(%)
Congress	78
BRS	76
BJP	63

Note: The rest were either not visited or did not respond.
Question asked: Has any candidate or party worker belonging to these parties come to your house to ask for your vote?

Table 3: Election campaign participants are more likely to favour the Cong. (in %)

	Party voted for		
	Congress	BRS	BJP
Attended election campaigning (38)	41	39	14
Participated in rallies (30)	41	38	15
Involved in door-to-door canvassing (25)	41	10	13

Note: The rest voted for other parties.
Question asked: Which party did you vote for in this election?

Farmers choose Cong. despite benefiting from govt. schemes

Jyoti Mishra & Nirmanyu Chauhan

To gain political advantage, the BRS counted on its flagship programme, Rythu Bandhu, which has helped thousands of farmers. The scheme, started in 2018, provided ₹5,000 per acre to each farmer.

This rabi season, the government was supposed to provide funds to about 64 lakh farmers, but the State was scheduled to vote on November 30.

With the Congress crossing the majority mark, it becomes pertinent to inquire why, despite the fanfare, Rythu Bandhu did not work wonders for the BRS. While examining the voter response to various State government initiatives for farmers, it was found that nearly four in five (80%) farmers benefited from Rythu Bandhu, and three in four (76%) benefited from free power supply. However, a higher number of voters cast their votes for the Congress party compared to the ruling BRS (Table 1).

Even though Rythu Bandhu was a flagship programme of the BRS, only four of every 10 (43%) of those who benefited from it voted for the party. This suggests that the initiative may not have translated into unwavering political support. Nonetheless, the BRS benefited from the Rythu Bima scheme, as data suggest that those who benefited (30%) from this scheme favoured the BRS more compared to the Congress (Table 1).

The findings also suggest that despite farmers benefiting from welfare schemes launched by the Central government, such as the PM Kisan Yojana and the PM Fasal Bima Yojana, they voted for the Congress. Nearly three in five (61%) farmers in Telangana acknowledged receiving benefits from the PM Kisan Yojana, and less than half (46%) of them voted for the Congress (Table 2). The BJP did not gain any edge from the scheme.

Despite the BRS's reliance on farmers' welfare schemes, its electoral defeat in Telangana indicates that farmer benefits did not secure political loyalty. Voters, despite reaping rewards from government schemes, leaned towards the Congress.

Jyoti Mishra and Nirmanyu Chauhan are researchers at Lokniti-CSDS

Table 1: State schemes for farmers and its impact on voting preferences (in %)

State government initiatives	Benefited	Vote choice	
		Congress	BRS
Rythu Bandhu	80	45	43
24x7 free power supply	76	45	44
Rythu Bima (Farmers Group Life Insurance Scheme)	30	38	51

Note: The rest voted for other parties
Question asked: Have you or any of your family members benefited from the schemes launched by the Telangana government?

Table 2: State schemes for farmers and its impact on voting preferences (in %)

Central government initiatives	Benefited	Vote choice		
		Congress	BRS	BJP
PM Kisan Yojana	61	46	41	9
Kisan Fasal Bima Yojana	20	46	41	11

Note: The rest have either not benefited, did not hear or don't know and have voted for other parties
Question asked: Have you or anyone in your family benefitted from the above initiatives?

Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Revanth Reddy interacting with farmers in Jayashankar Bhupalpally district, Telangana. FILE PHOTO

Poor reach of popular welfare schemes dashed BRS's hopes of scoring hat-trick

Aadyot Prakash & Subhabita Krishna

Despite the claims made by the BRS regarding its overwhelmingly popular model of welfare politics, the party suffered a crushing defeat in the election.

The BRS's poll manifesto centred on these welfare schemes. However, the Lokniti-CSDS survey shows that a large chunk of voters did not benefit from most of these schemes. The government's Aasara Pension Scheme had the maximum reach, while the Housing Scheme had the minimum reach. There seems to be a clear correlation between not having benefited from the schemes and a higher vote percentage for the Congress (Table 1).

The KCR government also launched targeted schemes for the Scheduled Castes and the Other Backward Classes. Nearly four in five voters from SC (82%) and OBC castes (83%) did not benefit from these schemes. This revealed a clear voting trend toward the Congress, especially among OBC voters, as two in five OBC voters (43%), who did not benefit from the schemes, voted for the Congress (Table 2).

On the other hand, the Central schemes had much lower penetration in the State. On an average, three in five voters did not benefit from the BJP-led Centre's schemes. Those who did not benefit from these schemes found no reason to vote for the BJP.

As a result, nearly two in five voters, who did not benefit from the Central government schemes, also chose the Congress over other parties (Table 3).

It seems that the generally limited reach of the BRS's schemes in Telangana, even after a decade in power, has interrupted its 'hat-trick'. The findings suggest voters decide on who to vote for based on whether they benefit from schemes. If they do not benefit, they choose a party other than the incumbent.

Aadyot Prakash and Subhabita Krishna are researchers at Lokniti-CSDS

Table 1: Low reach of welfare schemes proved costly for BRS (in %)

	Non-beneficiaries (Overall)	Vote choice of non-beneficiaries	
		Congress	BRS
Double Bedroom Housing Scheme	79	41	36
KCR kit	51	43	34
Fee Reimbursement Scheme	50	42	34
Aarogyasri	48	45	30
Kalyana Lakshmi/ Shaadi Mubarak	47	43	32
Aasara Pension Scheme	35	41	30

Note: The rest voted for other parties
Question asked: Have you or any of your family members benefited from the schemes launched by the Telangana government?

Table 2: SC and OBC voters who did not benefit from the schemes turned to Congress (in %)

	Non-beneficiaries (Overall)	Vote choice of non-beneficiaries	
		Congress	BRS
Dalit Bandhu Scheme (among SC voters)	82	39	38
Backward Class Bandhu Scheme (among OBC voters)	83	43	45

Note: The rest voted for other parties
Question asked: Have you or any of your family members benefited from the schemes launched by the Telangana government?

Table 3: Limited reach of Central govt. schemes also helped Congress bag votes in Telangana (in %)

	Non-beneficiaries (Overall)	Vote choice of non-beneficiaries	
		Congress	BRS
PM Awas Yojana	65	42	36
Ayushman Bharat Yojana	59	42	36
Ujjwala Yojana	55	41	37

Note: The rest voted for other parties
Question asked: Have you or any of your family members benefited from the schemes launched by the Central government?

From Page One

Cyclone-triggered rain brings Chennai to a halt

A weather bulletin issued past 9 p.m. said that the severe cyclonic storm, Michaung (pronounced Migjaum), over west-central and adjoining southwest Bay of Bengal off south Andhra Pradesh and adjoining north Tamil Nadu coasts moved north-northwestwards with a speed of 10 kmph during the past six hours and lay centred at 5.30 p.m. over west-central Bay of Bengal off south Andhra Pradesh and adjoining north Tamil Nadu coasts about 80 km southeast of Nellore, 120 km north-northeast of Chennai, 210 km south of Bapatla and 250 km south-southwest of Machilipatnam.

It is likely to move nearly northwards parallel and close to south Andhra Pradesh coast and cross south Andhra Pradesh coast between Nellore and Machilipatnam, close to Bapatla, during the forenoon of Tuesday as a severe cyclonic storm with a maximum sustained wind speed of 90-100 kmph gusting to 110 kmph.

Almost all neighbourhoods were flooded and authorities were battling SOS calls.

ZPM wins Mizoram in single-party show

C. Ngunlianchunga proved to be the saving grace for Congress, which ruled Mizoram for more than 22 years, by winning the Lawngtlai West seat. The party had won five seats in 2018, down from 34 in 2013.

The biggest gainer, however, was the BJP which swept southern Mizoram's Siaha district by winning both seats there. But it drew a bank in the Buddhist Chakma-dominated areas where it had won its only seat in 2018. The new system entails forming a resource mobilisation team, looking at austerity measures, disinvestment, and manpower assessment, Mr. Lalduhoma said, adding that all the victorious candidates have been asked to assemble in the State's capital Aizawl on Tuesday.

He would meet the Governor on Tuesday and stake claim to form the government.

Suspense continues over Telangana CM

Mr. Revanth Reddy threw his hat into the ring but there were also other aspirants like CLP leader in the dissolved Assembly Bhatti Vikramarka and former TPCC chief N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, both party loyalists.

Mr. Bhatti contended that he strengthened the Congress with his Padayatra from Adilabad to Khammam and was a senior and the party should consider his services.

Mr. Uttam Kumar Reddy argued that he had won his seventh straight win in Telangana, including as a Parliament member. He had also ensured that except for one all the other seats in his Lok Sabha constituency were won by the Congress indicating his popularity.

Sources, however, said that Mr. Revanth Reddy claimed he had the support of the most number of MLAs and he had rejuvenated the party when it was battered by the BRS through defeats and defections. He is confident given his equations with Rahul Gandhi. The AICC observers report included these opinions apart from the individual opinion of each MLA over their leader.

Mr. Revanth Reddy moved a one-line resolution in the CLP meeting authorising AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge to choose the CLP leader.

13 found dead in Manipur; Meitei group joins talks

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The Assam Rifles on Monday found the bodies of at least 13 men in Tengnoupal district of Manipur, close to the Myanmar border, a defence source said. Their identity is yet to be established.

An Assam Rifles team rushed to the spot around 10.30 a.m. after receiving inputs about a gunfight between two groups in Leithao village of Tengoupal, a Kuki-dominated area. "Search operations have been launched to apprehend the suspects. Under what circumstances the 13 men were killed is also being investigated," the source said.

In another development, the National Revolutionary Front Manipur, a Meitei underground group, joined the United National Liberation Front (UNLF), a Meitei group that signed a peace accord with the Manipur government and the Centre on November 29, the Union Home Ministry said in a statement.

Around 25 leaders/cadres of the NRFM, led by Major Boicha (Vice Chief of Army Staff of NRFM), along with 25 weapons, joined the UNLF on December 2, the Ministry said. "With this, most of the outfit's members have taken a step towards abjuring the path of violence. The development is likely to give a momentum to efforts of Government of India to restore peace and normalcy in Manipur," it said. It said that the NRFM (earlier United Revolutionary Front) was formed on September 11, 2011 by cadres of three factions of the KCP, a Meitei insurgent group.

"Its senior leaders operated from bases in a neighbouring country and were involved in violence and extortion in various parts of the Manipur Valley. The development is likely to encourage other Meitei underground outfits to join the peace process," the Ministry said.

Multiple anti-militancy operations begin in J&K

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR/JAMMU

Multiple anti-militancy operations in vast areas dotted with forests and hilly pockets were launched in Rajouri and Poonch districts of the Pir Panjal Valley on Monday in the wake of heightened militant activities in the region.

The combing operations were jointly launched by the Jammu & Kashmir Police and the Army at Thanamandi, Suderbani, Kalakote, and Budhal in Rajouri. In Poonch, similar operations, including door-to-door searches, were carried out at Gursai and Mendhar, close to the Line of Control, officials said.

Official sources said area domination and anti-militancy drills were held to trace militants hiding in the hilly and forest areas of the two districts.

Three locals from Budhal area were being questioned.

The Army has been employing modern equipments to maintain surveillance in these pockets.

Save former naval officers facing death in Qatar, says Cong.

The Ethics Committee report on Trinamool member Mahua Moitra in the cash-for-query allegation was listed in the Lok Sabha but not tabled

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Sonia Gandhi with Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and Gaurav Gogoi on the first day of the Winter Session of Parliament in New Delhi. PTI

On the first day of the Winter Session of Parliament, which began on Monday, the Leader of the Congress in the Lok Sabha, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, raised the issue of the death sentence against eight former Indian Navy officers awarded by a court in Qatar, and demanded that the government exhaust every resource to bring them back.

As the House began its sitting, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was greeted with slogans of "*Teesri baar, Modi sarkar* [Modi government for a third time]" after the party's hattrick win in the Assembly elections.

The much-anticipated report of the Ethics Committee on Trinamool Congress member Mahua Moitra in the cash-for-query allegation was not tabled, though it was listed among papers that would be placed before the House. At the Business Advisory Committee of the Lok Sabha, Opposition leaders are learnt to have told Speaker Om Birla that the report should not be tabled without giving a chance to Ms. Moitra to give her version.

The first hour of the Lower House witnessed a brief disruption after Bahujan Samaj Party MP Danish Ali protested against "inaction" on his complaint against BJP's Ramesh Bidhuri for allegedly making communal slurs at him.

When the House resumed at noon, Mr. Chowdhury raised the issue of the former Indian Navy officials. Manish Tewari, Congress member, had given an adjournment notice on the issue but it was not admitted.

RS passes Post Office Bill; parties oppose 'free hand' to officers

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Opposition says it empowers any officer to open or detain any postal item citing security of state

The Rajya Sabha passed the Post Office Bill on Monday, which repeals and replaces the Post Office Act of 1898. The Bill, the government said, will ensure the effective functioning of the postal department as a messenger service and as a provider of banking facilities. The Opposition, citing the provisions empowering any officer to intercept, open or detain any postal item in the interest of the security of the State, expressed concern that giving such a free hand to officers will harm the right to privacy. Section 9 of the Bill gives the power to intercept, open or detain any item or deliver item to customs authority by the post office officials.

Communications Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said postal services were becoming irrelevant during UPA regime and there was a situation when post offices had to be phased out. "This new legislation is a reflection of the way post offices and postmen have been transformed into a service-delivery institution from being merely a mail-delivery mechanism, and the post offices have been practically converted into banks," Mr. Vaishnaw said adding that 660 post offices were closed earlier but from 2014 to 2023, around 5,000 post offices were opened and about 5,746 new ones are in the process of being opened.

Congress MP Shaktisinh Gohil flagged the provisions in Section 9 and said the provision will infringe on the right to privacy. "I understand that security is important and you are doing it for the safety of the people but in the name of security... in which direction are we going," he asked. His argument was supported by members of Left parties, AAP, Shiv Sena, DMK, TDP and other Opposition parties.

Centre committed to increasing the strength of women in defence forces, says Modi

The Hindu Bureau
PUNE

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inspects a Guard of Honour during the Navy Day celebrations in Sindhudurg district on Monday. PTI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said the government was committed to increasing the strength of women in the armed forces. "Today, India is setting bigger targets for itself and is utilising its full potential to achieve those targets," Mr. Modi said Sindhudurg district on the Konkan coast of Maharashtra on the occasion of Navy Day.

The Prime Minister, who earlier unveiled a statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji at the Rajkot fort, said that the India of today was shaking off the "slave mentality" by moving forward, inspired by the ideals of the 17th century Maratha warrior king. "The Sindhudurg Fort instills a feeling of pride in every citizen of India," Mr. Modi said, while lauding Shivaji's foresight in recognising the importance of naval capabilities for any nation.

"With pride in our heritage, I am proud to announce that the ranks in the Indian Navy will be renamed according to Indian culture. We are also working on increasing women power in our defence forces. I want to congratulate the Navy for appointing the country's first woman commanding officer on a naval ship," Mr. Modi said.

Paying homage to the rich maritime heritage of Shivaji, he said that the warrior king's seal had inspired the new naval ensign that was adopted last year when he had commissioned the first indigenous aircraft carrier, *INS Vikrant*.

He said that the Union and the State governments were determined to preserve the forts built during Shivaji's period, stating that hundreds of crores of rupees were being spent on the conservation of these heritage sites throughout Maharashtra, including the Konkan. Mr. Modi said this would increase tourism in the area and create new employment and self-employment opportunities.

'Ensure the display of PMAY-U logo on all houses'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

It is mandatory for all States and Union Territories (UTs) to ensure the display of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban (PMAY-U) logo and beneficiary details on all houses constructed under the scheme, the Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry said on Monday. The PMAY-U, a flagship mission of the Government of India aims to address the urban housing shortage among the less privileged.

INDIA parties to raise State-specific issues

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Breaking from the recurring trend of putting a single issue at the vortex of their protest in Parliament, the INDIA bloc parties on Monday decided that it would not be the case this time, allowing all parties to raise State-specific issues.

"While the government has managed to pass innumerable Bills without discussions, we have lost session after session putting ourselves in a fix by taking inflexible positions on a single subject," a senior Opposition leader said.

The parties also decided to urge the government to allow short-duration discussions in both Houses on the economic situation and border situation. Though the Assembly election results were not broached by any party, a source described the mood of the meeting as very sombre.

According to sources, it was resolved that this is effectively the last chance the Opposition will get to speak in Parliament and therefore no "hours should be wasted". It was decided that even Mahua Moitra's expected expulsion in the cash-for-query scam would not lead to a total boycott.

Journalist bodies write an open letter

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Several journalist bodies have jointly written to the parliamentarians, placing before them a charter of their demands. In an open letter, the National Alliance of Journalists, the Delhi Union of Journalists, the Kerala Union of Working Journalists and the Andhra Pradesh Working Journalists Federation have listed 14 demands.

They include a law to protect journalists from arbitrary arrests and malicious prosecution.

Other demands included setting up of a common Media Council for print, electronic and digital media; setting up of a Media Commission and putting responsible checks on cross-media ownership.

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS : TIRUPATI
Health Office, T.T.D., Tirumala. **e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE**

2nd call e-tenders are invited for Sanitation maintenance of Tirumala areas (mentioned at Tender document) for ward-wise i.e., Ward-III, Ward-IV,Ward-V, Ward-VI & Ward-VII separately under the control of the Health Department, TTD, Tirumala for a period of 24 months (2 Years) under work contract mode contract duly taking the account of Labour-cum-Mechanization cleaning wherever possible and Material supply **(i)** Number of Labour **(ii)** Materials **(iii)** Minimum machinery deployment **(iv)** Additional service on special occasions and **(v)** Responsibility of execution of work. For tender documents and scope of work of each ward separately log on to the web site **http://www.tirumala.org** and **http://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in.**
Last date for submission of tender is **21-12-2023.** For further details contact Phone No: **0877-2263686, 9866132451 & 9985233509** and mail ID: **ttdhealthoffice@gmail.com.**
Roc.No.PR4/13961/Adv.No.284/PRO/2023, Dated:04-12-2023 **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS : TIRUPATI
Office of the Chief Engineer **TENDER NOTICE**
Adv.No.77/D3/CE/TTD/2023-24 & NIT No.245/SE-I/TTD/2023-24 Dt:02/12/2023
Name of work: (1) Providing Sanitation and Cleanliness around TTD Institutions, entry areas and areas covered under roads where Pilgrims and Worshipers visiting the Tirupati (Zone-A), Open Tender Type, Time for completion 12 months. **NOTE: For full details log on to the web site https://www.tirumala.org.**
Roc.No.PR4/13961/Adv.No.283/PRO/2023, Dated:04-12-2023 **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice
Tender No: T No.132 to 136/2023-24/SE/Q JJM Soorand North, Pavithreswaram, Neduvathoor, Yeroor, Neduvathoor Thengolilkkadavu - Pipe laying and road restoration work, laying gravity main, pumping main, pipe line extension in various panchayath and allied works. **EMD :** Rs. 50000, 100000, **Tender fee :** Rs. 5515+993,8270+1489, **Last Date for submitting Tender :** 14-12-2023 02:00 pm, **Phone :** 04742745293, **Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**
KWA-JB-GL-6-1763-2023-24 Superintending Engineer, PH Circle, Kollam

COCHIN SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE AUTHORITY (CSEZA)
Ministry of Commerce & Industry,
Government of India,
CSEZ Administration Building,
Kakkanad, Cochin - 682 037.
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFB)
Applications in prescribed proforma are invited by the Chairperson, Cochin Special Economic Zone Authority (CSEZA), Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India from eligible, reputed and experienced Central or State Public Works Organisations/Public Sector Enterprises registered in India meeting the qualification and eligibility criteria for rendering services of operation, maintenance & management and project management consultancy of Estate and Integrated Water Management System in CSEZ, covering the scope of services specified/detailed in the RFB. Applicants can view/download the RFB document from www.csezauthority.in or https://www.eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app (Tender ID 2023_CSEZA_736165_1) from 13.30 hrs IST on 01st December, 2023 to 1500 hrs IST on 26th December, 2023. Response to RFB must be submitted under two bid system and shall be addressed to the Chairperson, Cochin Special Economic Zone Authority, CSEZ Administration Building, Kakkanad, Kochi - 682 037 so as to reach this office before 1500 hrs IST on 28th December, 2023.
Sd/
Kakkanad — Secretary-in-Charge, CSEZA
04th December, 2023 — Tel. No.0484-2413111 (ext.204)

SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM LIMITED
CIN U75302KL2017SGC05027
E-TENDER NOTICE
E-Tenders are invited for the following projects of Smart City Thiruvananthapuram Limited Project

Sl. No.	Name of Project	E-Tender ID	Bid Submission Last Date
1	Development of Smart Roads and Underground Ducting Including Utility Shifting of Water Supply and Power lines in ABD area Under Smart (Corporation Roads) in Thiruvananthapuram -Pumping Station Road (ID 45)	2023_SCTLT _617140_3	07/12/2023
2	Selection of Contractor for Green Park Spectrum of Biological Hub at Sewage Treatment Plants at Muttathara and Medical College	2023_SCTLT _605577_3	11/12/2023

(sd/-) **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**
SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM Ltd.

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BANGALORE URBAN ZILLA PANCHAYATH
Office of the Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, First Floor, Zilla Panchayat Building, S. Kariyappa Road, Banashankari, Bengaluru - 560070.
No: EE/RDW&SD/BNG(U)/TND/16/2023-24
Dated: 04-12-2023
KPPP SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE
Tenders are invited through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal for the works approved Under JJM Head of grants for the year 2022-23 Under Two Cover System. The Tender Documents can be obtained and Submitted **on or before 12-12-2023 upto 4.00 PM.** For further details contact the above address during office hours or visit Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
Sd/- Executive Engineer
Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division
Bangalore Urban Dist, Bengaluru.
DIPR/CP/2389/Adverto/2023-24

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
KMDA TENDER NOTICE
e-NIT No. SE (FAWS) /W&S/T-01 of 2023-24
e-Tender is invited by the Superintending Engineer (FAWS), W&S Sector, KMDA, 6th Floor, Unnayan Bhavan, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700091, from reliable, experienced and resourceful Agencies, for the work, **Name of Work, Amount put to Tender, Earnest Money, Time of Completion,** Design, Supply, Delivery, Construction, Commissioning and Completion of all the Civil & Electro-Mechanical Works including all allied, related and enabling Works for Augmentation & Strengthening of Urban Surface Water Supply Scheme of Barasat Municipality Piped Water Supply Scheme of all the Components all Complete including 3 months Trial Run & 60 Months Operation & Maintenance CWPHs under AMRUT 2.0., Rs,168,24,09,000/-, Rs.10,00,000/- (Rupees Ten Lakhs Only) to be deposited through Online Portal. Balanced Amount of Rs 3,26,48,180.00 (Rupees Three Crore twenty six Lakhs forty eight thousand one hundred eighty). To be deposited Through Valid Bank Guarantee (BG), 24 months, **Last date of Online Bid submission:** 05.01.2024 at 6:30 p.m., for details contact the above office or visit both websites.
www.kmda.wb.gov.in **(KMDA-874)**
www.wbtenders.gov.in
ICA- T24545(4)/2023

INBRIEF

Rajya Sabha ends suspension of AAP MP Raghav Chadha

The Rajya Sabha on Monday passed a motion to end the suspension of Aam Aadmi Party MP Raghav Chadha following a recommendation by the Privileges Committee. The suspension from August 11 would be taken as "sufficient sentence" for the charges against Mr. Chadha, including not abiding by the House rules and the Chair's orders and recommending members to a select committee without their consent. Reading out his decision, Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar said the privileges panel, headed by Deputy Chairman Harivansh, had a deep and thoughtful consideration of the charges and found that Mr. Chadha was guilty of intentionally and deliberately presenting misleading facts to the media.

Kafeel Khan says his family fears renewed intimidation

Kafeel Khan, a paediatrician from Uttar Pradesh, on Monday said all charges levelled in an FIR against him in relation to his book were false. He said the book had been in the public domain for almost two years. Dr. Khan was named in the FIR registered last week in Lucknow, along with five unidentified people, for allegedly inciting people against the government and creating hatred in society through the book. Dr. Khan said his family was frightened due to what he described as a new round of intimidation tactics and targeting. "My elderly mother, wife and the entire family are feeling scared after hearing of the new case registered against me, which is a new round of intimidation tactics," he said.

'India, U.S. can work through differences constructively'

U.S. Principal Deputy NSA in New Delhi for high-level meetings days after Department of Justice linked an Indian govt. official to plot to assassinate Khalistani leader Gurpatwant Singh Pannun

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Brass tacks: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar meets Principal Deputy NSA of the U.S. Jonathan Finer in New Dellhi on Monday. PTI

Despite many differences in their relationship, India and the U.S. have been able to surmount all challenges to bilateral ties, said the two sides after a visit to New Delhi by U.S. Principal Deputy National Security Adviser Jonathan Finer, the first high-level meetings since the U.S. indictment linked an Indian government official to an assassination plot last week.

Significantly, Mr. Finer, who led a delegation for talks with the National Security Council (NSCS) on technology and met with his counterpart Deputy National Security Adviser Vikram Misri, also received meetings with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, NSA Ajit Doval and Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra, indicating how much importance New Delhi gave the visit in the current situation after the publication of the Department of Justice indictment.

'Difficult issues remain'

"There are many difficult issues that remain in [the India-U.S.] relationship, right up to the present day," said Mr. Finer, speaking at the Global Technology Summit in Delhi organised by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and Carnegie India, a think-tank, where he spoke of the "complicated history" of the relationship.

"But what we have demonstrated, I think, throughout the course of not just this administration, [but previous administrations in India and U.S.] to bring us to the point where not only can we seize some of the important opportunities that the world presents for us, geopolitically and economically, but we can work through our differences in a constructive way without derailing that broader cooperative agenda," he added.

Speaking at the same event, Mr. Jaishankar also stressed that India and the U.S. have managed their relationships over the past two decades and five different U.S. Presidents.

"The data clearly indicates a certain stability and that there is enough investment on both sides and structural soundness to the relationship," Mr. Jaishankar said, adding that "from an Indian perspective, India-U.S. relations are certainly proofed against political checks".

No talk of indictment

Neither side referred directly to the issue of the indictment that has seen the arrest of an Indian national named Nikhil Gupta after an elaborate investigation that involved an undercover U.S. law enforcement official posing as a hitman, in a case where the U.S. Department of Justice claims an Indian government official directed a plan to assassinate Khalistani separatists wanted by India, including Sikhs for Justice leader and U.S. national, Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, and other unnamed targets in the U.S. and Canada.

The indictment also linked the plot to the killing of Khalistani leader Hardeep Singh Nijjar in Canada in June. The revelations in the indictment were called a "matter of concern" by the MEA that said a high-level inquiry committee had been constituted to investigate the U.S. allegations, although it had earlier dismissed Canadian allegations over the Nijjar killing.

Both the MEA and the U.S. Embassy in Delhi declined to say whether the Pannun issue had been raised during the meetings, but news agency PTI reported that it was "understood that the [Pannun plot] issue figured in the meeting between Mr. Jaishankar and Mr. Finer".

Ladakh leaders want reservation, people's empowerment

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The Ministry asked the leaders to submit their demands in writing. FILE PHOTO

Civil society leaders from Ladakh raised the issues of disempowerment of local people, trust deficit in the name of development, reservation for local people in jobs, electoral representation, and tribal status for the Union Territory at the first structured meeting at least since 2020 with Union Home Ministry officials on Monday.

A 14-member delegation comprising members from the Leh Apex Body (LAB) and the Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA) met Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai and Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla in Delhi for an hour and a half.

More meetings

The Ministry asked the leaders to submit their demands in writing and assured them of holding frequent meetings to resolve the issues, while the members called for a time frame to meet the demands, said members who attended the meeting.

Thupstan Chhewang, former BJP MP and an influential leader in Ladakh, told *The Hindu* that the officials appealed to them not to hold protests and agitations as talks were on.

He added that mobilisation of people up to the block level by making them aware of the demands was already on.

"This was the first structured meeting called by the Ministry. Bureaucratic overreach is one of the major concerns. Our people do not have a say in how the budget is spent or the projects planned. The U.T. administration brought an industrial policy without consulting us. Statehood is the only solution as safeguards provided under Article 370 are no longer there," Mr. Chhewang said, adding that if the demands were not met then protests would resume.

Sajjad Kargili of the KDA said that the Ladakh resident certificate, issued to permanent residents of the Union Territory, should be a prerequisite for government jobs.

Did overconfident regional leaders in Hindi heartland pay no heed to Congress top brass?

NEWS ANALYSIS

Sandeep Phukan
NEW DELHI

The defeat of the Congress in the Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan Assembly elections not only reflected the failure of the party's top leadership in being assertive on decision making but also the overconfidence of regional leaders.

The contrast is sharper if one compares how the party managed the elections in Telangana with party strategist Sunil Kanugolu, who had earlier successfully worked in Karnataka.

From gathering feedback on potential candidates to designing the party's election promises, Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) chief A. Revanth Reddy worked closely with Mr. Kanugolu.

In contrast, the heavyweights took independent decisions in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan, often ignoring the high command.

In Madhya Pradesh, State unit chief Kamal Nath took independent decisions. Mr. Nath snubbed Samajwadi Party (SP) chief Akhilesh Yadav and refused to get into any alliance despite the SP being a member of the INDIA bloc.

Similarly, he called off a proposed rally of the INDIA bloc in Bhopal after DMK leader and Tamil Nadu Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin's controversial remark on *sanatana dharma*.

Mr. Nath's comment *Digvijaya ke kapde padho* (tear Digvijaya's clothes) to the supporters of an unsuccessful ticket seeker further created an impression of a divide.

A Congress worker waving the party flag at a rally. FILE PHOTO

Jai Prakash Aggarwal, the All India Congress Committee (AICC) Madhya Pradesh in-charge, was replaced by Randeep Surjewala barely months before the elections.

The party's campaigning also peaked quite late, with Mr. Surjewala organising *Jan Aakrosh* [people's anger] rallies to cover over 200 constituencies in the last two months. The AICC planned as many as 34 public meetings of its top leaders in the last 17 days, sources said. These campaigns ran almost parallel to those organised by the State unit, they added.

Lack of resources and a fund crunch also surprised many, especially since Mr. Nath is known to be an extremely resourceful leader with wide-ranging contacts.

Gehlot-Pilot tussle

In Rajasthan, until the high command brokered a fragile peace pact, the leadership tussle between Ashok Gehlot and former Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot dominated the headlines.

Based on feedback from the ground, the central leadership is said to have favoured dropping many sitting MLAs in Rajasthan but Mr. Gehlot preferred to go with those who stood by him during the July 2020 rebellion by Mr. Pilot.

In Chhattisgarh too, the differences between outgoing Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel and senior leader T.S. Singh Deo, were a public affair until the latter was made the Deputy Chief Minister.

Though the AICC did replace over 20 MLAs with fresh faces to beat anti-incumbency, Mr. Baghel could not effectively counter the allegations of corruption against his government by the BJP.

"No less the Prime Minister said in elections rallies that the State is being used as an ATM but we didn't counter it effectively," said a party leader, worrying about the party's shrinking footprints.

Results disappointing, but Cong. not dejected: Ramesh

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Jairam Ramesh

The election results in Chattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan where the Congress faced a crushing defeat were "disappointing" but the party is not "dispirited and certainly not dejected", Congress general secretary (Communications) Jairam Ramesh said on Monday.

At a press briefing on the party's parliamentary strategy group meeting, he said the party would strongly oppose the three Bills seeking to replace the existing criminal justice system, alleging that the legislation was bulldozed through the standing committee without any "meaningful discussions or consultations".

The Congress's parliamentary strategy group meeting was chaired by Congress Parliamentary Party leader Sonia Gandhi on the first day of the Winter Session, which came just a day after the results of the four Assembly elections were announced.

Speaking about the results, the Congress leader said that it fell far short of the party's expectations but described it as a "temporary setback". "The results were certainly disappointing but we are not dispirited and certainly not dejected. We accept the verdict and are analysing them in detail. Our resolve to fight even harder remains undiminished and we will fight even harder," he added. The Congress, he said, is conscious that only a short time is left for the 2024 Lok Sabha election. "We will be preparing in all earnestness, rigour and with determination. This was the message of today's meeting," he averred.

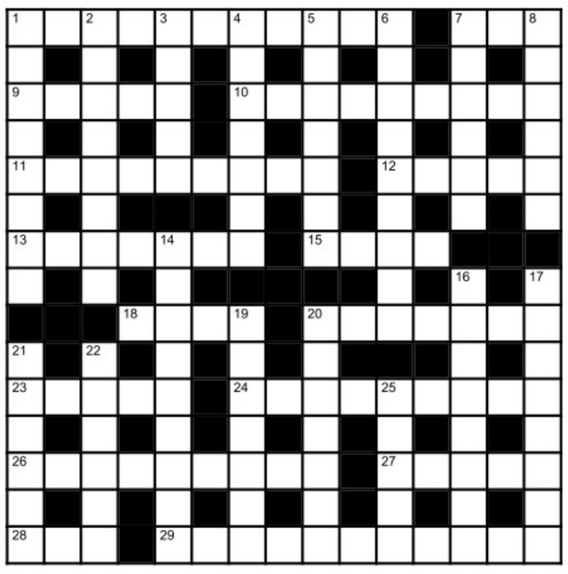
Mr. Ramesh said that the party has been asking for a debate on the economic situation and the border situation in several previous Parliament sessions but the government has not been willing to hold it. "We will seek a short-duration discussion on the current economic situation on price rise, unemployment, growing income inequalities and regional disparities. Current foreign policy challenges and the situation in borders," he stated.

TH CROSSWORD + 14037

(set by Arden)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



ACROSS

1. A man with fruit won't allow any other plant to grow (5,6)
7. Animal works endlessly (3)
9. One can hold a beer, not a German scientist (5)
10. Said to have no grievances initially, for extraordinary calmness (4-5)
11. Arranged self protection, not close to the bottom line (3,6)
12. He failed to resolve it - some went back (5)
13. Left with a hope to retain Charlie, looking back it was momentous (7)
15. Appeal, it's fun, but not sure (4)
18. Delight for finally getting some protection (4)
20. One's in the hospital with ache and internal cramp (7)
23. A new tax causes apprehension (5)
24. Swiss characters? (9)
26. Glides from one pitch to the other as sliding off (9)
27. Notice a hindrance right inside (5)
28. Set up after I go inside (3)
29. Compound holding animals in coma, perhaps (3,8)

DOWN

1. A collector has dispatched, but one's missing (8)
2. Voting for assembly, wrong hand involved (8)
3. Indicate normal trend (5)
4. Sappers' second German airlift was peaceful... (7)
5. Continuous French refusal to salvage vessels (7)
6. Starts with English, French, German - perhaps fluent and shining brightly (9)
7. Army sword, comes up somewhat sluggish (6)
8. Suffer as at sea undersea (6)
14. Bad breath is so bad, stop taking interest first (9)
16. Told to have the same fruit one after another, that's a complaint (8)
17. Canal, it takes time for it to become a large water body (8)
19. More than olive oil? Some of it is alcohol (7)
20. I'm up and about, everyone to come in wearing a vestment (7)
21. Torment an animal (6)
22. Searching? Go out looking (6)
25. Time to follow the muse (5)

SUDOKU

5		3			6			
	1						6	3
4				1				
9		4			5			
6		8	3		9	5		4
			7			3		8
				9				6
8	4						5	
			6			1		2

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

No.SS5998 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

2	7	1	5	3	9	4	8	6
3	4	6	7	2	8	9	1	5
8	9	5	4	1	6	2	3	7
7	2	4	8	5	1	6	9	3
5	6	9	2	4	3	8	7	1
1	3	8	6	9	7	5	4	2
6	8	2	3	7	4	1	5	9
9	5	7	1	8	2	3	6	4
4	1	3	9	6	5	7	2	8

FAITH

In the interests of all

The scriptures say the nature of self-interest or selfishness is a person who thinks he alone should be comfortable and enjoy all the material benefits. Sri Ganesa Sarma said in a discourse that general or public welfare implies that through one's deeds, one extends comforts and benefits to others. Evil-minded people will create trouble for others. We should at least refrain from causing harm to others. The peak of selfishness leads to the development of ego.

The easiest way to shun ego is to follow the guidelines enshrined in the sastras. How can a person understand whether a deed he has undertaken is correct? The sastras alone can decide, and they are the witness to our actions ('*Tasmaat sastram pramananthe karya karyow vyavasthithow*'). In His manifestation as Lord Rama, God shows this to us by His conduct and behaviour ('*Ramo vigrahavan dharma*'). Lord Krishna established this by protecting the pious people ('*Parithranaya sadhunam*').

Various acharyas lived by dedicating their lives for the benefit of ordinary people. The acharya in recent times is the Kanchi Mahaperiyava Sri Chandrasekara Swamigal, who lived for a century, guiding, helping and blessing all people. Their lives are the best examples worthy of emulation for us to become selfless and valuable to society.

PADANG

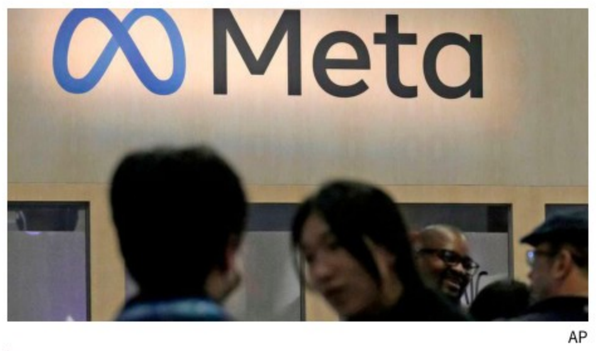
11 bodies recovered after volcanic eruption in Indonesia, 12 missing

AFP

A day after a furious eruption of the Mount Marapi volcano in Indonesia, the bodies of 11 climbers were recovered on Monday. Rescuers are searching for 12 missing persons. Forty-nine had safely descended from the crater, some with burns, an official said. AFP

MADRID

80 Spanish media houses file $600-mn lawsuit against Meta



AP

A group of 80 Spanish media houses on Monday filed a $600-million lawsuit against Instagram-owner Meta for allegedly violating European Union regulations on extracting personal information from users and selling it to advertisers. AFP

TEHRAN

Iran, Cuba seek to strengthen ties to confront U.S. sanctions

AFP

Iran and Cuba vowed on Monday to strengthen relations and stand together against sanctions imposed on them by the U.S. Cuba has been under a U.S. embargo since 1962 and is included on the American list of countries supporting terrorism. AFP

BEIJING

U.S. Navy ship illegally intruded into South China Sea, says China

AP

The Chinese military said that an American naval ship, *USS Gabrielle Giffords*, "illegally intruded" on Monday into waters near the Second Thomas Shoal, the site of a territorial dispute between China and the Philippines in the South China Sea. AP

Israel orders evacuations as it widens offensive on Gaza

It urges people to evacuate the southern town of Khan Younis, where displaced Palestinians had sought refuge in recent weeks; health officials say death toll mounting since end of ceasefire

Associated Press
DEIR AL-BALAH

Israel's military renewed calls on Monday for mass evacuations from the southern town of Khan Younis, where tens of thousands of displaced Palestinians have sought refuge in recent weeks, as it widened its ground offensive and bombarded targets across the Gaza Strip.

The expanded operations, following the expiration of a weeklong ceasefire, are aimed at eliminating Gaza's Hamas rulers, whose October 7 attack into Israel triggered the deadliest Israeli-Palestinian violence in decades.

Already under mounting pressure from its top ally, the U.S., Israel appears to be racing to strike a death blow against Hamas before any new ceasefire. But the mounting toll of the fighting, which Palestinian health officials say has killed several hundred civilians since the truce ended last Friday, is likely to further increase international pressure to return to the negotiating table. It could also render even larger parts of the isolated territory uninhabitable.

Precision strike: An Israeli tank firing towards the Palestinian territory amid continuing battles between Israel and Hamas. AFP

The ground offensive has transformed much of the north, including large areas in Gaza City, into a rubble-filled wasteland.

No more refugees

Hundreds of thousands of people have sought refuge in the south and both Israel and neighbouring Egypt have refused to accept any refugees. Residents said they heard airstrikes and explosions in and around Khan Younis overnight and into Monday after the military dropped leaflets warning people to relocate farther south toward the border with Egypt.

Later in the day, the military warned civilians to avoid the main north-south highway between Khan Younis and the central town of Deir al-Balah, saying the road had become a "battlefield" and was "extremely dangerous." That indicated Israeli troops were approaching Khan Younis from the northeast, possibly with plans to cut central Gaza off from the south.

Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari, the Israeli military spokesman, said the Army is pursuing Hamas with "maximum force" in the north and south, and said it was trying to minimise harm to civilians.

Netanyahu graft trial resumes

Agence France-Presse
JERUSALEM

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's corruption trial resumed on Monday, despite the country's continuing war against Hamas in the Gaza Strip. The trial was suspended two months ago following the Hamas attack on October 7.

Mr. Netanyahu, leader of Israel's right-wing Likud party, is accused of fraud and breach of trust over his relationship with Hollywood producer Arnon Milchan and other wealthy personalities. According to prosecutors, between 2007 and 2016, he allegedly received gifts valued at $195,000, including boxes of cigars, bottles of champagne and jewellery, in exchange for financial or personal favours.

Mr. Netanyahu denies any wrongdoing.

Biden's allies in Senate want Israel to limit civilian deaths

Associated Press
WASHINGTON

As a cease-fire ticked down last week and Israel prepared to resume its round-the-clock airstrikes, Senator Bernie Sanders and a robust group of Democratic Senators had a message for their President: They were done "asking nicely" for Israel to do more to reduce civilian casualties in Gaza.

Lawmakers warned President Joe Biden's national security team that planned U.S. aid to Israel must be met with assurances of concrete steps from Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's hard-right government.

"The truth is that if asking nicely worked, we wouldn't be in the position we are today," Mr. Sanders said in a floor speech. It was time for the U.S. to use its "substantial leverage" with its ally, the Vermont Senator said.

Bernie Sanders

"And we all know what that leverage is," he said, adding, "the blank-cheque approach must end." With Mr. Biden's request for a nearly $106 billion aid package for Ukraine, Israel and other national security needs hanging in the balance, the Senators' tougher line on Israel has gotten the White House's attention, and that of Israel.

U.S. role

Lawmakers of both major political parties for decades have embraced the U.S. role as Israel's top protector, and it's all but inconceivable that they would vote down the wartime aid.

Mr. Sanders and the Democratic Senators involved say they are firm in their stand that Israel's military must adopt substantive measures to lessen civilian deaths in Gaza as part of receiving the supplemental's '$14.3 billion in U.S. aid for Israel's war.

The warning from friendly Democrats is a complication for the White House as it faces what had already been a challenging task of getting the supplemental aid bill through Congress.

Ukraine aid to run out soon: White House

Agence France-Press
WASHINGTON

The White House Budget chief warned the U.S. Congress on Monday that failure to agree on fresh funds for Ukraine by the end of the year would "kneecap" Kyiv on the battlefield.

In a letter to the House Speaker, the director of the Office of Management and Budget Shalanda Young said time was rapidly running out to support Ukraine's fight against the Russian invasion.

"I want to be clear: without congressional action, by the end of the year we will run out of resources to procure more weapons and equipment for Ukraine," Ms. Young wrote. "Cutting off the flow of U.S. weapons and equipment will kneecap Ukraine on the battlefield," she added.

President Joe Biden asked Congress in October to approve $106 billion in national security funding, including support for Ukraine and for Israel's war against Hamas.

But Congress has been paralysed for months by Republican infighting, with hard-right lawmakers particularly opposing any further assistance for Kyiv as the war drags on. New Republican House Speaker Mike Johnson took office in October after Kevin McCarthy was ousted by a right-wing coup.

Venezuelans claim Guyana region in vote

Agence France-Presse
CARACAS

Venezuelan electoral authorities on Sunday claimed that 95% of voters in a non-binding referendum approved of the nation's territorial claim on a huge chunk of neighbouring oil-rich Guyana.

President Nicolas Maduro hailed what he called "an overwhelming victory for the 'Yes' throughout Venezuela." "We have taken the first steps of a new historic stage in the struggle for what belongs to us, to recover what the liberators left us," he said.

The referendum raised fears in Guyana, and around the region, about Venezuela's ultimate intentions over the contested territory.

Mr. Maduro, who will seek re-election next year amid an economic crisis, hopes the outcome of the referendum will strengthen his nation's claim to the oil-rich Essequibo territory governed by Guyana.

Guyana's President Irfaan Ali has said that his government was working to protect the country's borders and keep people safe. "I want to assure Guyanese that there is nothing to fear," Mr. Ali.

Guyana asserts the border was set in the British colonial era and was confirmed in 1899 by a court of arbitration.

Indian companies should invest in 'climate vulnerable' nations: Nasheed

Jacob Koshy
DUBAI

More Indian companies ought to be investing in clean energy projects in Maldives and other 'climate vulnerable' countries instead of putting money in "iron and steel" as this would be a "good investment", former Maldives President Mohamed Nasheed told *The Hindu* on Monday.

Currently, the Secretary-General, Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) – a grouping of 58 countries that are particularly vulnerable to natural disasters from climate change – Mr. Nasheed said India's commitment to installing 500 GW of electricity from non-fossil fuel sources and reducing emissions by 45% suggested that "it was on track" as far meeting its commitments to the Paris Agreement was concerned. The 2015 agreement, to which India is a signatory, seeks to cap global average temperature rise below 2°C and "as far as possible" below 1.5°C. "More than taking on emission cuts, India should be investing more in renewable energy projects in climate-vulnerable countries," said Mr. Nasheed.

Mohamed Nasheed

Mr. Nasheed said that he had seen interest from "several Indian investors" in investing in renewable energy projects, particularly solar and wind projects, in countries that are part of the grouping.

Development banks and richer developed countries could play an important role in "de-risking investments", he said while stressing that the vulnerable countries were not really asking for grants but seeking real investments in their economies.

INBRIEF

Hyundai Motor's sales of IONIQ 5 eSUV exceed 1,000

Hyundai Motor India Ltd. (HMIL) said it has sold more than 1,000 units of electric Sport Utility Vehicle (eSUV) IONIQ 5 since its introduction about a year ago. The South Korean carmaker delivered the 1,100 unit to its brand ambassador and Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan. With more than 1,000 units sold, the eSUV has received "an astounding response from customers fulfilling their aspirations and appetite for premium luxury cars," the automaker said.

ReNew signs pact with Asian Development Bank for $5.3 bn

ReNew Energy Global said on Monday it signed a pact worth more than $5.3 billion with Asian Development Bank to collaborate on projects to tackling climate change. The MoU, signed at the COP28 conference in Dubai, comes at a time when demand for renewable energy (RE) is booming. ReNew said the pact covers projects between 2023 and 2028 with a total investment value of more than $5.3 billion and is expected to draw interest from global investors. REUTERS

AI picks design firm HBA for revamp of airport lounges

Air India has appointed acclaimed design firm Hirsch Bedner Associates to refurbish its lounges at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport and New York's John F Kennedy Airport. The refurbishment and rebuilding are planned to begin shortly. "The lounges will be designed to reflect the rich cultural heritage of India with world-class state-of-the-art amenities embodying the vibrant spirit of the new Air India - a global airline with an Indian heart," the airline said.

Sensex, Nifty climb 2%, scale new peaks after poll results

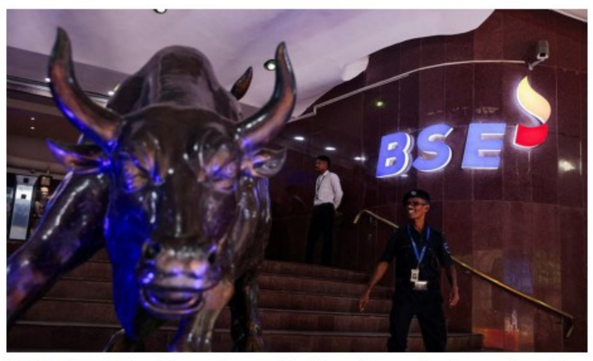
BJP's victory in three States lifts sentiment as investors bet on stability post 2024 general elections; ICICI, State Bank of India lead gains in the Sensex, while 44 of the Nifty's 50 stocks post advances

Press Trust of India
MUMBAI

The Sensex and Nifty rose more than 2% to close at record highs on Monday, marking the fifth straight day of gains as the BJP's poll victory in three States boosted investor sentiment.

The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 1,383.93 points, or 2.05%, to close at a lifetime high of 68,865.12. The benchmark logged its biggest single-day jump since May 20, 2022.

The broader Nifty also climbed 2.07% to an all-time closing high of 20,686.80. Analysts said BJP's clear majority in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh State polls strengthened the positive sentiment built up last week following robust macroeconomic numbers and unabated foreign fund inflows. Oil prices hovering below $80/barrel also lifted sentiment.



Bulls apace: The Sensex logged its biggest one-day jump since May 20, 2022, with the gauge posting its fifth straight advance. REUTERS

ICICI Bank and SBI led the Sensex higher with gains of 4.68% and 3.99%, respectively. Other gainers included Larsen & Toubro and HDFC Bank.

The BJP's landslide win in three States "spurred a rally with an anticipation that the country will witness a stable government post the general elections next year," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

'Monthly GST mop-up averaging ₹1.66 lakh cr. so far this FY'

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

GST collection has been showing an upward trend on an annual basis since its roll-out on July 1, 2017, and the average gross monthly mop-up so far this fiscal is ₹1.66 lakh crore, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Monday.

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha, she said the GST collection crossed ₹1.50 lakh crore mark in every month of the current fiscal and had touched a record high of ₹1.87 lakh crore in April.

"GST collection has been showing an upward trend on year-on-year basis since the implementation of GST w.e.f. 1 July, 2017... The average gross monthly GST collection in FY 2023-24 now stands at ₹1.66 lakh crore and is 11% more than that in the same period in the previous financial year," Ms. Sitharaman said.

The average monthly GST collection in 2022-23 was more than ₹1.50 lakh crore, higher than ₹1.23 lakh crore in 2021-22. In 2020-21, the average monthly mop-up was ₹94,734 crore.

To another question, Minister of State, Finance Pankaj Chaudhary replied: "GST is paid on self-assessment basis and tax administration at Central and State level is empowered to take action against cases where GST is not paid and short paid. Detection of such cases and recovery... is a continuous process".

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

-

	MONDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	68,865	2.05
US Dollar	83.38	-0.06
Gold	64,300	1.57
Brent oil	78.88	–

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on December 04

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	83.17	83.49
Euro	90.37	90.72
British Pound	105.31	105.72
Japanese Yen (100)	56.69	56.9
Chinese Yuan	11.65	11.7
Swiss Franc	95.2	95.58
Singapore Dollar	62.29	62.54
Canadian Dollar	61.39	61.63
Malaysian Ringitt	17.85	17.93
Australian Dollar	55.28	55.5

Source:Indian Bank

IT sector growth to inch up to 6% in FY25: ICRA

Press Trust of India
MUMBAI

Domestic rating agency ICRA said on Monday the Indian IT sector's revenue growth will inch up to more than 6% in 2024-25 from 3-5% estimated for the ongoing financial year.

The slower growth will have an impact on the hiring plans, the agency said, adding that staff addition will continue to remain "muted" for the next 2-3 quarters. The $250-billion industry grew by 9.2% in FY2022-23.

The muted hiring outlook is the result of a weak demand scenario and companies will focus on utilising the capacity in the past and improving overall utilisation levels, ICRA said.

The macroeconomic challenges in the U.S. and Europe had caused a slowdown in demand, it added.

RPL case: SAT nixes SEBI's order against RIL's Ambani

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) on Monday set aside the penalty imposed by SEBI on Reliance Industries' Chairman Mukesh Ambani and two other entities in a case related to alleged manipulative trading in the shares of erstwhile Reliance Petroleum Ltd. (RPL) in 2007.

In January 2021, SEBI imposed fines including a ₹25 crore fine on RIL and ₹15 crore on Mr. Ambani.

GST appeals pile up as new filings near 3,000 till October

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Pending taxpayer appeals over central GST levies have risen by as much as 25% through the first seven months of this financial year, with almost 3,000 new appeals being filed since April, the Finance Ministry informed Parliament on Monday, acknowledging that such appeals have risen significantly in recent times.

As per data shared with the Lok Sabha, the number of taxpayer appeals pending under the GST regime, have actually seen a higher uptick over the first half of this year than all of fiscal 2022-23, when about 2,100 appeals were added to the pending cases list.

The number of pending appeals over central GST levies stood at 14,897 as of October 31, compared with about 11,899 on March 31. More than 2,300 of these appeals were filed between April and June and about 660 appeals were filed in the four-month period between July and October.

While the ministry reiterated the Centre's decision to constitute State Benches of the much-awaited GST Appellate Tribunals, as per the recommendations of the GST Council, it did not give an explicit response to members' queries about the anticipated timeline for their operationalisation.

U.S. approves Granules' copy of drug for a lung condition

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Granules has received U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval for its generic version of Viatris Specialty's Revatio pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) treatment.

The product, therapeutically equivalent to Viatris's Sildenafil for oral suspension, 10 mg/ml, is indicated to improve exercise ability and delaying clinical worsening in patients with PAH, Granules said on approval of the ANDA filed by unit Granules Pharmaceuticals Inc.

The current annual U.S. market for Sildenafil for oral suspension is about $43 million, Granules said.

'Corporate bond market to more than double by 2030'

Capex, infrastructure sector and financialisation of savings key drivers of growth: Crisil

Press Trust of India
MUMBAI

The corporate bond market growth is expected to gather pace in the coming years, and its overall size is likely to more than double to over ₹100 lakh crore by March 2030, domestic credit rating agency Crisil said on Monday.

In a report, Crisil said push to capital expenditure, attractiveness of the infrastructure sector and also the financialisation of savings will be the key drivers for this growth.

It said in the last five years till March 2023, the corporate bond market grew 9% per annum to ₹43 lakh crore, and is likely to more than double to over ₹100-120 lakh crore by March 2030.

The agency's Senior Director, Somasekhar Vemuri, said regulatory interventions would also help growth.

The growth in capex will be driven by high capacity utilisation, healthy corporate sector balancesheets and strong economic outlook, the agency said, adding that the period till FY27 alone will see investments of over ₹110 lakh crore.

The corporate bond market is expected to finance a sixth of the estimated capex, the agency said.

The credit risk profile for infrastructure assets is also getting stronger, along with better recovery prospects and the ability to lend long-term, the agency said, noting that at present only 15% of corporate bond issuances go to infrastructure.

Crisil's Director Ramesh Karunakaran said relaxing the investment restrictions on corporate bonds rated below 'AA' for insurance and pension funds and fortifying the credit default swaps market will help the industry's growth.

Demand for corporate bonds will also be driven by non-bank lenders looking to serve credit demand.

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.
Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001
Corporate Identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813 Website: www.pspcl.in
(Contact No. 96461-22185)

Tender Enquiry No. 301/SS(D)-II (under RDSS) **Dated: 01.12.2023**

Dy. CE/Substation Design / TS Organization, PSPCL, C-1, Shakti Vihar PSPCL, Patiala invites E-tender for Manufacture, Testing and Supply & Delivery of 35 Nos. 66kV Isolators (without Earth Switch, with Solid Core insulators) (under RDSS). For detailed NIT & Tender Specification, please refer to https://gem.gov.in from 02.12.2023 (09:00 AM onwards), having GeM Bid Number as "GEM/2023/B/4274223."
NOTE:- Corrigendum and amendments, if any, will be published online at https://gem.gov.in/

C - 867/23 **76155/12/2464/2023/30314**

Government of Karnataka
Rural Development & Panchayat Department
Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Division, Chitradurga
Phone No.: 08194-234488 e-mail: eerdwsd.chd@gmail.com
Tender Notification No: EE/RDWS&SD/CTA/JJM / Tender/2023-24/1616 Date: 02.12.2023

Short Term Tender Notification

(Single & Two Cover System) Through e-procurement

Tender has been invited for the following work in Two cover system throughe-procurement. Eligible tenders may obtain the details and tender documents and submitted the filled tender online through website view. http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. Chitradurga Taluk 09 Works Rs. 473.53 Lakhs, Challakere Taluk 03 Works Rs. 151.47 Lakhs, Hiriyur Taluk 10 Works Rs. 477.45 Lakhs, Holalkere Taluk 03 Works Rs. 357.50 Lakhs, Hosadurga Taluk 20 Works Rs. 1025.18 Lakhs AND Molakalmur Taluk 01 Works Rs. 55.58 Lakhs Total Rs. 2540.72 Lakhs. Last Date for Receipt of Bids Dt: 08.12.2023, Date of Technical Bid Opening 11.12.2023 and Date of Financial Bid Opening 12.12.2023. For Further details Office of Executive Engineer and also through e-port web site http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.

DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/377/2023-24
Sd/- Executive Engineer, R.D.W.S. & S. Division, Chitradurga

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
Public Works Department
Executive Engineer PWD Division Chikkodi
No/PWD/CKD DIV/AE-1/TENDER/2023-24/4077 DATE: 02/12/2023

Short Term E-Tender Notification

Executive Engineer PWD Division Chikkodi has invited item wise short term e-Tenders from Eligible registered contractors for the works coming under the jurisdiction of Chikodi PWD Division 1 work under head of account 5054-MDR Renewals, 3 works under head of account 5054-MDR Improvements, 3 works under head of account 5054-SH Improvements and 1 work under head of account 8443-Deposit contribution (Vivek Yojane), Totally 8 No. of works, amount put to tender is Minimum of Rs. 54.17 Lakhs and Maximum of Rs. 250.00 Lakhs.

Calendar of events for the works at Sl No. 2, 4, 6 & 8:1)Pre-bid meeting date: 07-12-2023 at 11.00 AM, at The O/o the under signed. 2)Last date for queries & clarifications : 08-12-2023 up to 5.30 PM, 3)Last Date of Receipt of Bids : 11-12-2023 up to 5.00 PM, 4)Date of opening of Technical bids (Two Cover System): 13-12-2023 at 4.30 PM, 5)Date of opening of Financial bids (Two Cover System): "after approval of Technical bids", 6)If no bid received auto extension will be done by e-proc itself for 2 days.

Calendar of events for the works at Sl No. 1, 3, 5 & 7: 1)Pre-bid meeting date: 11-12-2023 at 11.00 AM, at The O/o the under signed. 2)Last date for queries & clarifications : 12-12-2023 up to 5.30 PM, 3)Last Date of Receipt of Bids : 14-12-2023 up to 5.00 PM, 4)Date of opening of Technical bids (Two Cover System): 16-12-2023 at 4.30 PM, 5)Date of opening of Financial bids (Two Cover System): "after approval of Technical bids", 6)If no bid received auto extension will be done by e-proc itself for 2 days.

For more information & forms of tender can be downloaded from kppp.karnataka.gov.in & departmental web site www.kpwd.gov.in. Further details can be collected from O/o Executive Engineer Public Works Dept.,Division Chikkodi during working hours.

DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-689/KSMCA/2023-24
Sd/- Executive Engineer PWD Division Chikodi.

McDonald's raises China bet, bucking Western firms' de-risking trend

Reuters
SHANGAI

The decision by McDonald's to take greater control of its China business and expand aggressively in the face of a consumer slowdown and geopolitical tensions seems risky - but the potential pay-off is great, analysts say.

Last month, the U.S.-based burger maker cut a deal to repurchase the 28% stake in its China business Carlyle Group took in 2017, giving it a 48% share in $6 billion worth of operations that include Hong Kong and Macau.

The move contrasts sharply with the prevailing trend of multinational corporations reeling back investments in China or even exiting altogether because of geopolitical and economic challenges.

One advantage for McDonald's: its majority partner in the China business, CITIC, provides top-level political cover, said Jason Yu, greater China managing director of market research firm Kantar Worldpanel.

"Having a powerful state-owned conglomerate as a partner means they are not going to be at the forefront of the geopolitical situation," Yu said.

McDonald's China, Carlyle Group and CITIC declined to comment.

China still important

Other consumer-facing U.S. firms, including Starbucks, Apple and sportswear giant Nike, have remained similarly dedicated to the China market.

Starbucks and Nike, which face increased competition from lower-priced domestic competitors, show the need to stay agile in order to protect and grow market share, analysts say.

The coffee giant is sticking with expansion plans and launched a smaller cup size; Nike, by contrast, has offered localised, higher-end sneakers such as its "Year of the Rabbit" Dunk Lows.

McDonald's has used funds from the Carlyle investment to double its restaurant count since 2017 to 5,500, and the country has become its second-largest market. The business aims to have more than 10,000 stores in China by 2028.

Competitors of McDonald's are also expanding. Yum China, which operates KFC and Pizza Hut, already has 14,000 stores.

Hon'ble Justice H.N. Nagamohan Das Inquiry Commission
3rd Floor, Public Works Department Main Building, K.R. Circle, Bangalore-560001.

DATE OF EXTENSION NOTIFICATION FOR SUBMISSION OF PUBLIC COMPLAINTS

HON'BLE GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA ISSUED NOTIFICATIONS RELATED TO HON'BLE JUSTICE SHRI H.N. NAGAMOHAN DAS INQUIRY COMMISSION VIDE NOTIFICATIONS NO. OE 98 PCE 2023, DATED : 25.08.2023 AND 06.10.2023

In this regard, the Hon'ble Inquiry Commission has published a Notification in this Newspaper on 14.11.2023 for submission of suggestions / objections / complaints / statements /documents to the office of the undersigned within office hours (10.00 AM to 5.30 PM) on or before 29.11.2023 respectively, in person or by Post or through e-mail.

The time limit for the above has now been extended **upto 30.12.2023** enabling for maximum participation of the public in the Inquiry process.

Sd/- Member Secretary
Hon'ble Justice H.N. Nagamohan Das Inquiry Commission
3rd Floor, Public Works Department Main Building, K.R. Circle, Bangalore-560001.
Email: justicenmdasinquirycommission@gmail.com

DIPR/CP/YC/2397/2023-24

NOTHING TO LOSE

Once I got Wade's wicket, I was sure we had won: Arshdeep

K. MURALI KUMAR

Pacer Arshdeep Singh said that a 'nothing-to-lose' approach helped him defend 10 runs against Australia in the final over. "There was nothing left for me to lose. I had already conceded a lot of runs. I backed my strengths. My gut feel was to bowl a bouncer first ball. Once I got Wade's wicket, I was sure that we had won the match."

LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Bishnoi was hard to get a hold of in T20I series, admits Wade

K. MURALI KUMAR

Australia skipper Matthew Wade admitted that facing Bishnoi even on some of the batting-friendly tracks was not easy. "Their spinners bowled well. They tied us down and we couldn't really break away in the middle period. Bishnoi was quite hard to get a hold of. Some of our guys with less experience will learn a lot from facing him."

GO FOR IT

Will follow the Bazball approach against India too: McCullum

PTI

England coach Brendon McCullum is very clear that his team will stick to the Bazball approach in the five-Test series against India, starting on January 25 next year. "I genuinely believe India is the best in its home conditions. If we have success it will be fabulous... if we don't, I know we will go down in the style we want to go down."

DOUBLE DELIGHT

Aslam stars on captaincy debut as Paltan shock Pink Panthers

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Puneri Paltan produced a brilliant all-round display to stun defending champion Jaipur Pink Panthers 37-33 in the Pro Kabaddi League in Ahmedabad on Monday. Arjun Deshwal (17 points) and skipper Aslam Inamdar (10), who led Paltan for the first time, shone. Bengal Warriors pipped Bengaluru Bulls 32-30 in the other match.

Bavuma and Rabada rested for white-ball series against India

Press Trust of India
JOHANNESBURG

South Africa skipper Temba Bavuma and pace ace Kagiso Rabada have been rested for the white-ball leg of this month's home series against India with the duo set to return for the two Tests.

The Proteas host India for a full series, which includes three T20Is, as many ODIs and two Tests, beginning with the shortest format on Dec. 10 in Durban.

Batter David Bedingham (Test) and pacer Nandre Burger have also earned maiden national call-ups.

The squads: T20Is: Aiden Markram (Capt.), Ottniel Baartman, Matthew Breetzke, Nandre Burger, Gerald Coetzee (1st and 2nd T20Is), Donovan Ferreira, Reeza Hendricks, Marco Jansen (1st and 2nd T20Is), Heinrich Klaasen, Keshav Maharaj, David Miller, Lungi Ngidi (1st and 2nd T20Is), Andile Phehlukwayo , Tabraiz Shamsi, Tristan Stubbs, and Lizaad Williams.

ODIs: Aiden Markram (Capt.), Ottniel Baartman, Nandre Burger, Tony de Zorzi, Reeza Hendricks, Heinrich Klaasen, Keshav Maharaj, Mihlali Mpongwana, David Miller, Wiaan Mulder, Andile Phehlukwayo, Tabraiz Shamsi, Rassie van der Dussen, Kyle Verreynne and Lizaad Williams.

Tests: Temba Bavuma (Capt.), David Bedingham, Nandre Burger, Gerald Coetzee, Tony de Zorzi, Dean Elgar, Marco Jansen, Keshav Maharaj, Aiden Markram, Wiaan Mulder, Lungi Ngidi, Keegan Petersen, Kagiso Rabada, Tristan Stubbs, Kyle Verreynne.

Positives galore as Men in Blue look to build a new T20 core

The leadership of Suryakumar a major plus along with Bishnoi and Jaiswal's top-draw efforts; Ruturaj, Rinku and Mukesh, too, appear capable of delivering the goods; the Axar conundrum needs to be addressed in the lead-up to the World Cup

AUSTRALIA IN INDIA

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

If India's recently concluded five-match T20I series against Australia is to be seen as an audition ahead of next June's T20 World Cup in the Caribbean and United States, the actors in fray seemingly look the part.

From Ruturaj Gaikwad to Yashasvi Jaiswal to Rinku Singh to Ravi Bishnoi to Mukesh Kumar, all players navigated the hurdle with the kind of creative imagination that is a prerequisite in the game's shortest format.

If Ruturaj and Jaiswal's opening salvo of shots set a deafeningly high tone, Rinku's batting prowess in the middle and end overs, Bishnoi's stifling spin in the PowerPlay and Mukesh's exploits at the death gave this Indian side a well-rounded look.

What also stood out was Suryakumar Yadav's maiden captaincy spell. With Rohit Sharma's future as a T20 skipper uncertain, and Hardik Pandya still recovering from an ankle injury, Suryakumar appears to have quietly thrown his hat into the ring. While five matches may be all too small a sample to judge leadership acumen, a positive assessment from a fellow player is not to be discounted. "Surya has given us a free hand," said pacer Arshdeep Singh, who defended 10 runs off the last over in Bengaluru on Sunday to hand India a 4-1 victory. "He has given both bowlers and batters the freedom to express their capabilities. Wickets were largely batting-friendly, but he told us [bowlers] that where there are challenges, there are also opportunities.

Unobtrusive

"He has played a lot of cricket but he didn't force any plan on us. He backed us 100%. His inputs came only when we had to improve a few things and we were all very receptive to that."

The lone bit of course-correction India may have to do is to accommodate Axar Patel in the T20 set-up. Dropped for the upcoming three-match T20I series in South Africa for reasons unknown, the left-arm spinner turned in a stupendous performance against the Aussies.

Axar bowled 20 overs in all, picked up six wickets and gave away runs at a miserly Econ. rate of 6.2. There is also a view that the 29-year-old offers more bang for your buck as a T20 batter than Ravindra Jadeja, as he showcased with a crucial 21-ball 31 on a challenging track at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium.

All of which suggests that even though the India-Australia tourney came close on the heels of a draining World Cup schedule, its importance cannot be understated.

As India transitions away from its old guard, the casting directors appear close to identifying a core group. The rehearsals may well begin with coming Sunday's contest versus South Africa in Durban, the first of six T20Is the Men in Blue will play against the Proteas and Afghanistan in the lead-up to the marquee event next summer.

Forceful performance: Axar showed what India might miss in South Africa. K. MURALI KUMAR

India-Australia T20I series in numbers

Batting	Inns	Runs	HS	SR	100s/50s
Ruturaj	5	223	123*	159.28	1/1
Suryakumar	5	144	80	160.00	0/1
Jaiswal	5	138	53	168.29	0/1

Bowling	Inns	Wkts	BB	Avg	Econ
Bishnoi	5	9	3/32	18.22	8.20
Behrendorff	4	6	2/32	17.83	6.68
Axar	5	6	3/16	20.66	6.20

Khawaja defends Warner after stinging Johnson criticism

'No one's perfect': What they've done for the game from a positive point of view far outweighs anything else they've done, says Khawaja. GETTY IMAGES

Agence France-Presse
SYDNEY

Usman Khawaja jumped to the defence of his opening partner David Warner on Monday after stinging criticism of the veteran batsman from Australian great Mitchell Johnson.

Former fast bowler Johnson hit out after Warner kept his spot in Australia's squad to face Pakistan in the first Test later this month despite a poor run of red-ball form.

The three-match home series against Pakistan is expected to be Warner's farewell to Test cricket.

The decision to keep faith with Warner provoked a strong response from Johnson, who questioned why his former team-mate should be given a "hero's send-off" in light of his poor Test form.

"Can somebody please tell me why?" he wrote in The West Australian newspaper at the weekend, also bringing up Warner's central role in the notorious "Sandpaper-gate" ball-tampering scandal in 2018.

Steve Smith and Warner were both banned for a year for their part in the scandal, but Khawaja told reporters on Monday: "Davey Warner and Steve Smith are heroes in my mind. No one's perfect," Khawaja said.

"Mitchell Johnson isn't perfect, I'm not perfect, Steven Smith isn't perfect, David Warner isn't perfect.

"What they've done for the game from a positive point of view... far outweighs anything else they've done."

"So for (Johnson) to imply that Davey Warner or anyone else involved in the sandpaper (scandal), is not a hero, I strongly disagree with that."

Hope's unbeaten ton powers West Indies home in first ODI

Agence France-Presse
NORTH SOUND

Shai Hope's 16th hundred and the rampaging support of all-rounder Romario Shepherd lifted the West Indies to a record-breaking four-wicket victory in a high-scoring opening duel of the three-match ODI series at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium here on Sunday.

Set a daunting target of 326, the home captain anchored the effort through an unsteady period before exploding at the finish, smashing three sixes off Sam Curran in the penultimate over. It was the highest ODI chase at the venue, surpassing the 276 chased down by the West Indies against Sri Lanka in 2021.

Hope's innings spanned 83 deliveries and was embellished by seven sixes and four fours, earning him the Player-of-the-Match award.

Shepherd blazed 48 off 28 balls in a sixth-wicket partnership of 89 which got the West Indies back into the match.

The hosts had, in fact, slipped to 213 for five in the 39th over despite a 66 at the top of the order from Alick Athanaze and his opening stand of 104 with Brandon King.

Hope... leading from the front. GETTY IMAGES

The scores: England 325 in 50 overs (Phil Salt 45, Zak Crawley 48, Harry Brook 71) lost to West Indies 326/6 in 48.5 overs (Alick Athanaze 66, Shai Hope 109 n.o., Romario Shepherd 48).

Barca's loan star Felix makes Atletico pay

EURO LEAGUES

Agence France-Presse
BARCELONA

Joao Felix's superb dinked finish earned Barcelona a vital 1-0 win over Atletico Madrid on Sunday in the LaLiga title race.

The Portuguese forward, on loan at Barca from Atletico, made no secret of his pleasure to escape the Spanish capital this summer and made his parent club pay at the Olympic Stadium.

Felix was criticised by some Atletico players ahead of the game and Barca coach Xavi Hernandez called on him to use those words as inspiration, which he duly did.

The forward's goal allowed Barca to reclaim third place from Atletico, now trailing leader Real Madrid and second place Girona by four points.

Atletico has not won away against the champion in LaLiga since 2006, a run now stretching to 18 matches, but arrived thinking this could be the time to snap that streak.

Since crumbling to a defeat in the El Clasico by Real Madrid at the end of October, Barcelona has struggled for form and confidence.

Inter Milan maintained a two-point lead at the top of Serie A on Sunday after running out convincing 3-0 winner at Napoli, whose title defence already appears on its last legs.

Beautifully taken goals from Hakan Calhanoglu, Nicolo Barella and Marcus Thuram pushed Inter back above closest challenger Juventus, which briefly held top spot after beating Monza on Friday.

Napoli is now 11 points off the pace and travels to Juve next weekend.

The results:
LaLiga: Barcelona 1 (Joao Felix 28) bt Atletico Madrid 0.
Serie A: Napoli 0 lost to Inter 3 (Calhanoglu 44, Barella 62, Thuram 85).

The hero: Felix about to dink the ball over Oblak for Barcelona's winner. AFP

East Bengal produces a five-star show against NorthEast United FC

ISL-10

Amitabha Das Sharma
KOLKATA

East Bengal came up with its best performance in the Indian Super League, blanking NorthEast United FC 5-0 at the Salt Lake Stadium here on Monday.

Cleiton Silva and second-half substitute Nandhakumar Sekar found the target twice each after Borja Herrera gave it the lead.

The hosts pressed for the advantage right from the start and scored the opener in spectacular fashion in the 14th minute when Herrera was set up on top of the NEUFC box by a superb assist from the young P.V. Vishnu. The Spanish midfielder unleashed a rasping left-footer that found the corner of the net.

East Bengal doubled the lead in the 24th minute when Spanish playmaker Saul Crespo used a *rabona* kick to release Mandar Rao Dessai. The East Bengal left-back's sharp lob was nodded home by Brazilian striker Silva. East Bengal had another chance through Vishnu in the 45th minute but goalkeeper K. Mirshad thwarted it.

The Kolkata giant returned after the break with greater resolve and trebled the lead in the 62nd minute through substitute Nandhakumar, who replaced Vishnu at half-time.

Nandhakumar then assisted Silva in the 66th minute to make it 4-0 before completing the scoring in the 81st minute, flicking home a Naorem Mahesh Singh assist.

The result:

East Bengal 5 (Herrera 14, Silva 24 & 66, Nandhakumar 62 & 81) bt NorthEast United FC 0.

Piling it on: East Bengal proved unstoppable against NEUFC, scoring goals at will. DEBASISH BHADURI

VIJAY HAZARE TROPHY FIXTURES

Group A: At Bengaluru: Saurashtra vs. Sikkim; Kerala vs. Railways; Mumbai vs. Odisha; Pondicherry vs. Tripura.
Group B: At Jaipur: Maharashtra vs. Manipur; Chhattisgarh vs. Jharkhand; Hyderabad vs. Meghalaya; Services vs. Vidarbha.
Group C: At Ahmedabad: Karnataka vs. Mizoram; Haryana vs. J&K; Bihar vs. Chandigarh; Delhi vs. Uttarakhand.
Group D: At Chandigarh: Assam vs. Rajasthan; Arunachal vs. Uttar Pradesh; Gujarat vs. Himachal.
Group E: At Mumbai: Bengal vs. Punjab; Nagaland vs. Tamil Nadu; Baroda vs. Goa.

INBRIEF

Haaland criticises referee on social media after City draw

Erling Haaland faces possible disciplinary action after complaining about referee Simon Hooper on social media following Manchester City's dramatic 3-3 draw with Tottenham on Sunday. The City striker was incensed after the official failed to play an advantage in the closing moments of a thrilling Premier League clash at the Etihad Stadium. Haaland was fouled but quickly got up and played Jack Grealish through on goal, only for Hooper to pull play back and award a free-kick.

Five Indian weightlifters to take part in IWF Grand Prix II

Five Indian weightlifters will be representing the country at the International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) Grand Prix II Weightlifting competition starting from Monday in Doha. The event is a qualifier for the 2024 Paris Olympics and will conclude on December 14. India will be sending a total of five lifters, including two women. Ajith Narayan and Achinta Sheuli will be in the men's 73 kg. Mirabai Chanu will be attending the event for a weigh-in. Bindyarani Devi will figure in the non-Olympic women's 55kg weight division while Gurdeep Singh will be in action in the +109kg, another non-Olympic weight division.

Silver medals for boxers Amisha, Prachi and Hardik

Hardik Panwar, Amisha Keretta and Prachi Tokas signed off with silver medals after suffering defeats in their respective finals at the IBA junior World boxing championships in Yerevan, Armenia on Sunday. Hardik (80kg) lost 2-3 to Ashurov Bairamkhan of Russia in a closely-fought contest. Meanwhile, Amisha (54kg) and Prachi (+80kg) suffered identical 0-5 losses in their respective finals. While Amisha lost to Ayazhan Sydyk of Kazakhstan, Prachi gave her all against two-time Asian junior champion Sobirakhon Shakhobiddinova of Uzbekistan but fell short. India has already secured 17 medals, including five bronze, in the tournament. Payal (48kg), Nisha (52kg), Vini (57kg), Shrushti (63kg), Akansha (70kg), Megha (80kg), Jatin (54kg), Sahil (75kg) and Hemant (80+kg) will fight for gold medals.

Vrinda to lead Karnataka

Vrinda Dinesh will lead Karnataka in the BCCI U-23 Women's T20 Trophy to be held at Raipur from December 10 to 19.

The team: Vrinda Dinesh (Capt.), Niki Prasad, Shreyanka R. Patil, G.R. Prerana, Roshini Kiran, Krishika Reddy, Chandasi Krishnamurthy, Soumya Verma, Mithila Vinod, Aditi Rajesh, Sakshi Doijode, Aditi Bakka, Shishira A. Gowda, M. Pooja Kumari, Ananya Hegde; **Coach:** Karuna Jain.

Lakshya, Samarath in smashing form
Centuries from Lakshya Raichandani (170) and Samarath Semwal (133) helped Uttarakhand bag three points by securing the first-innings lead in a drawn Vijay Merchant Trophy (U-16) encounter against Karnataka in Mangalagiri, Andhra Pradesh.

Karnataka will face Jammu & Kashmir in its next Elite Group-E match.

The scores:
Karnataka 236 in 81.1 overs (R. Shiv 52, Aniketh Reddy 36, Anvay Dravid 59, Milan Dhami 35, Joshi 5/64, Lakshya Raichandani 4/19) & 151/3 in 71 overs (Aniketh Reddy 34 n.o., Anvay Dravid 70 n.o.) drew with Uttarakhand 474/8 decl. in 124 overs (Ayush Deswal 38, Lakshya Raichandani 170, Samarath Semwal 133, Mudila 28, Manav 34, Pranjal Raikwal 34 n.o.).

LIVE TELECAST

NBA: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 6 a.m. onwards
Hockey: Women's Junior WC, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 1.30 & 3.30 p.m.
PKL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 8 p.m.
Premier League: SS Select 1, 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 1 a.m. (Wednesday)

Scheffler clinches title at Hero World Challenge

A bogey free four-under 68 in the final round does the job for the World No. 1 as he finishes three shots ahead of nearest rival Straka; Fitzpatrick and Thomas fail to mount a challenge

GOLF

Ashwin Achal
NASSAU

Third time's a charm for Scottie Scheffler. After finishing second in the 2021 and 2022 editions of the Hero World Challenge, Scheffler went the distance and claimed the title here on Sunday.

A bogey free four-under 68 in the final round did the job for Scheffler (20-under 268 overall), who finished a comfortable three shots ahead of nearest rival Sepp Straka.

"It was really cool for me two years ago just to get into this tournament. I had seen the Hero World Challenge pretty much my entire life and it seemed like such a fun time. It's definitely nice to win. Finishing second is not nearly as good a feeling as finishing first," Scheffler, the World No. 1, said.

Scheffler will enter 2024 full of confidence. "It's definitely nice to have the momentum of a win as I get into preparing for next season," he said.

Finally! Scheffler went all the way this time around after finishing second the last two years. GETTY IMAGES

Matt Fitzpatrick (70) and Justin Thomas (67) could not mount a challenge as Scheffler claimed his third win of the year.

Tiger Woods returned a 72 to finish in 18th spot.

Woods, returning from an injury, was happy to get through the four rounds.

"I think I have come a long way from being a bit rusty to playing four rounds. Just the physicality of playing and competing again – I haven't done this in a while.

Woods happy

"It was nice to get out there with the guys and have some fun," Woods said.

The 2021 and 2022 champion, Viktor Hovland, made up for disappointing three rounds with a stellar nine-under 63 on Sunday. Hovland (nine-under 279) finished tenth.

Collin Morikawa was assessed a two-stroke penalty for violating Model Local Rule G-11, which restricts players from using green-reading materials other than their yardage book that has been approved for use in the competition. Morikawa finished seventh.

The scores (top four): 268: Scottie Scheffler (69, 66, 65, 68); **271:** Sepp Straka (72, 67, 68, 64); **272:** Justin Thomas (70, 67, 68, 67); **273:** Tony Finau (67, 71, 68, 67), Matt Fitzpatrick (70, 68, 65, 70).

Bangor On Dee should win Pronto Pronto Plate

HYDERABAD: Trainer L. D'Silva's Bangor On Dee should win the Pronto Pronto Plate, the chief event of Tuesday's (Dec. 5) races.

1 ALEKONA PLATE (Div. II) (1,100m) Maiden, 3-y-o and upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) – 1.15 pm: 1. Warwick (1) P. Ajeeth Kumar 60, 2. Pancho (3) Shivansh 59.5, 3. Alcahol Free (8) Kiran Naidu 57, 4. Shadow Fax (4) Likith Appu 57, 5. Hurricane Bay (6) P. Sai Kumar 56.5, 6. Diamond Rain (2) Akshay Kumar 55, 7. Taaliyah (7) Afroz Khan 55, 8. Mix The Magic (9) B. Nikhil 54.5 and 9. See My Attitude (5) Kuldeep Singh (Sr) 54.5.
1. DIAMOND RAIN, 2. WARWICK, 3. SHADOW FAX

2 LAGARDE PLATE (Div. II) (1,200m), rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) – 1.45: 1. Miss Maya (2) Akshay Kumar 60, 2. D Minchu (5) Ajay Kumar 57, 3. Pontefract (4) Md. Ekram Alam 55.5, 4. Star Cruise (7) Kuldeep Singh (Sr) 54.5, 5. Lights On (3) Nakhat Singh 54, 6. Battle On (8) P. Sai Kumar 52.5, 7. Blue Label (1) R.S. Jodha 52.5 and 8. American Flame (6) G. Naresh 51.
1. MISS MAYA, 2. PONTEFRACT, 3. STAR CRUISE

3 SMART CHIEFTAN PLATE (1,100m), rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II) – 2.15: 1. Carlisle (8) A. Imran Khan 60, 2. Rising Queen (6) Md. Ismail 53.5, 3. Strauss (4) B. Nikhil 53.5, 4. Crimson Rose (2) Abhay Singh 51.5, 5. Top In Class (1) Kuldeep Singh (Jr) 51, 6. Capital Gain (3) Surya Prakash 50.5, 7. Fara (5) Ajay Kumar 50.5 and 8. N R I Fantasy (7) Likith Appu 50.5.
1. CARLISLE, 2. CRIMSON ROSE, 3. FARA

4 LAGARDE PLATE (Div. I) (1,200m), rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) – 2.50: 1. Dyanoosh (3) A. Imran Khan 60, 2. Only The Brave (6) Santosh Raj 58.5, 3. Ragnarok (5) Likith Appu 56.5, 4. Planet Super (9) Kuldeep Singh (Sr) 54.5, 5. Challenger (7) Abhay Singh 54, 6. Minecraft (8) Ashad Asbar 54, 7. Desert Sultan (1) B.R. Kumar 54, 8. London Bell (4) Md. Ekram Alam 51.5 and 9. Nav Lakhaa (2) Kuldeep Singh (Jr) 50.
1. DYANOOSH, 2. MINECRAFT, 3. RAGNAROK

5 BOLD GESTURE PLATE (Div. I) (1,600m), 4-y-o and upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) – 3.20: 1. Aerial Combat (9) A. Imran Khan 60, 2. Sundance Kid (6) Santosh Raj 58.5, 3. Shah Of Iran (5) Afroz Khan 57.5, 4. Das (8) Kuldeep Singh (Sr) 57, 5. Forever Bond (2) P. Ajeeth Kumar 56, 6. Alpine Girl (3) Mohit Singh 55, 7. Beauty Flame (1) N.B. Kuldeep 55, 8. Wandring Warrior (7) P. Sai Kumar 51.5 and 9. Siri (4) B. Nikhil 50.
1. DAS, 2. FOREVER BOND, 3. ALPINE GIRL

6 PRONTO PRONTO PLATE (1,200m), 4-y-o and upward, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II) – 3.50: 1. Bangor On Dee (6) A. Imran Khan 60, 2. Stoic Hero (9) P. Ajeeth Kumar 59.5, 3. Stag's Leap (8) B.R. Kumar 57, 4. Kings Best (2) Kuldeep Singh (Sr) 56, 5. Juramento (1) Ajay Kumar 55, 6. The Thunder (5) Ashad Asbar 53.5, 7. The Thunder (5) Ashad Asbar 53.5, 8. Power Ranger (7) Surya Prakash 51.5 and 9. Classical Music (3) Kuldeep Singh (Jr) 51.
1. BANGOR ON DEE, 2. JURAMENTO, 3. STAG'S LEAP

7 ALEKONA PLATE (Div. I) (1,100m) Maiden, 3-y-o and upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) – 4.20: 1. Thunder Knight (6) Ajay Kumar 60, 2. Assured Success (5) Kuldeep Singh (Sr) 58.5, 3. Jack Daniel (1) R.S. Jodha 56.5, 4. Santa Barbara (8) Md. Ekram Alam 56, 5. That's My Love (7) A.A. Vikrant 56, 6. Bien Pensant (3) Surya Prakash 55, 7. D Battle (9) P. Ajeeth Kumar 54, 8. Zidane (2) G. Naresh 53 and 9. Oskars Glory (4) Santosh Raj 52.
1. SANTA BARBARA, 2. BIEN PENSANT, 3. JACK DANIEL

8 BOLD GESTURE PLATE (Div. II) (1,600m), rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) – 4.50: 1. Starwalt (6) Kiran Naidu 60, 2. Honourable Lady (4) Mohit Singh 59, 3. D World (3) P. Ajeeth Kumar 58.5, 4. Indian Temple (8) Kuldeep Singh (Sr) 57.5, 5. Life Is Good (5) Md. Ismail 57, 6. Advance Guard (2) Surya Prakash 56.5, 7. Sucker Punch (7) G. Naresh 55.5 and 8. Carnival Lady (1) B. Nikhil 54.
1. SUCKER PUNCH, 2. STARWALT, 3. HONOURABLE LADY

Day's Best: **CARLISLE**
Jackpot: 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8.
Mini Jackpot: (i) 2, 3, 4 & 5. (ii) 5, 6, 7 & 8.
Treble: (i) 1, 2 & 3, (ii) 3, 4 & 5, (iii) 6, 7 & 8.
Tanala: All races.

Vishesh's special show guides Delhi to victory against Kerala

Sports Bureau

Vishesh Bhriguvanshi top scored with 31 points to guide Delhi to a 74-72 victory over Kerala in a group-B league match of the 73rd National basketball championship at the Guru Nanak Indoor Stadium in Ludhiana on Monday.

The results (league):
Men: Group-A: Services 103 (Sahil 21, Rajeev Kumar 11, Rajan 11) bt Telangana 53 (G Dinesh Kumar 10).
Group-B: Tamil Nadu 89 (B Soorya 13, M Aravind Kumar 11) bt Gujarat 45 (Kuldeep Tamalia 14, Dhaman Joshi 10).
Delhi 74 (Vishesh Bhriguvanshi 31, Joginder Singh 10, Vishal Gupta 10) bt Kerala 72 (Vaisak Manoj 24, Jerome Prince 11, Grogo Mathew 11, Joshua Sunil 10).
Tamil Nadu 87 (Jeevanathan 15, Pranav Prince 12, B Soorya 12, Baladhaneswar 10) bt Delhi 61 (Prince Tyagi 10).
Women: Group-A: Karnataka 81 (Sanjana Rajesh 18) bt West Bengal 41 (Jyothi 14).
Group-B: Kerala 61 (Sreekala 20, Aneesha Cleetus 10) bt Maharashtra 56 (Anshika Kanojia 16, Durga Dharmadhikar 14).
Delhi 69 (Raspreet Sidhu 22, Garima Gosain 21) bt Uttar Pradesh 61 (Megha Singh 28, Barkha Sonkar 19).
Punjab 65 (Kavya Singla 28, Manmeet Kaur 22) bt Maharashtra 61 (Durga Dharmadhikari 22, Siya Deodhar 15).

Commanding Knight claims the Raja Narsimha Rao Memorial Cup

HYDERABAD: Trainer Neelesh Rawal's Commanding Knight, ridden by P. Sai Kumar, won the Raja Narasimha Rao Memorial Cup, the main event of Monday's (Dec. 4) races.
The winner is owned by M/s. G. Lakshmi Prasad & D.N. Kempegowda.
1. FLYING TREASURE PLATE : DICTATOR (P. Sai Kumar) 1, Amboseli (P. Trevor) 2, Hoping Queen (Mohit Singh) 3 and Cannon Rose (Santosh Raj) 4. Not run: Anemoi and N R I Northpower. 5-1/2, Shd and Hd. 1m 7. 01s. ₹18 (w), 10, 10 and 13 (p). SHP: 21, THP: 30, SHW: 10 and 13, FP: 34, Q: 13, Tanala: 57. Favourite: Amboseli.
Owners: Mr. & Mrs. Shapoor P. Mistry rep. Manjri Horse Breeders Farm Pvt. Ltd. & Mr. Dilip R. Thacker. Trainer: K.S.V. Prasad Raju.
2. OSMAN SAGAR CUP (DIV. II): DELHI HEIGHTS (B. Nikhil) 1, Morior Invictus (A. Imran Khan) 2, Sun Dancer (Mohit Singh) 3 and Mark My Day (Nakhat Singh) 4. Shd, 1-1/2 and 3-1/4. 1m 24. 59s. ₹53 (w), 10, 10 and 18 (p). SHP: 38, THP: 46, SHW: 31 and 16, FP: 124, Q: 42, Tanala: 343. Favourite: Morior Invictus.
Owner: Mr. Rohit Gupta rep. Rolli Stud Dairy Agrl. Farm. Trainer: Magan Singh.
3. BRAVE DANCER PLATE: BLACK ONYX (B. Nikhil) 1, Baisa (Abhay Singh) 2, Unsung Hero (Mukesh Kumar) 3 and Thanks (Mohit Singh) 4. 1-1/2, 3-3/4 and 2. 1m 11. 41s. ₹18 (w), 11, 12 and 12 (p). SHP: 32, THP: 44, SHW: 19 and 19, FP: 50, Q: 43, Tanala: 133. Favourite: Black Onyx.
Owner: Mr. Rajeev Sharma. Trainer: Magan Singh.
4. OSMAN SAGAR CUP (DIV. I): DESPANG (Surya Prakash) 1, Stunning Force (Ajay Kumar) 2, City Of Blessing (Mukesh Kumar) 3 and Doe A Deer (Likith Appu) 4. 2-3/4, 2 and 3-3/4. 1m 24. 86s. ₹40 (w), 11, 12 and 10 (p). SHP: 34, THP: 58, SHW: 23 and 10, FP: 113, Q: 62, Tanala: 405. Favourite: Stunning Force.
Owner: Col. S.B. Nair. Trainer: L.V.R. Deshmukh.
5. CRACK REGIMENT PLATE: SACRED BOND (Kuldeep Singh) (Sr) 1, Flashing Memories (R.S. Jodha) 2, Toffee (Md. Ekram Alam) 3 and Code Blue (Abhay Singh) 4. Not run: Trishul. 5-1/2, 2 and 1-1/4. 1m 52. 59s. ₹18 (w), 10, 15 and 14 (p). SHP: 42, THP: 38, SHW: 12 and 15, FP: 85, Q: 55, Tanala: 246. Favourite: Sacred Bond.
Owners: Mrs. Rajini Meka, Mr. Bharat Venkat Epuri & Miss. Ameeta Mehra. Trainer: L.D'Silva.
6. RAJA NARASIMHA RAO MEMORIAL CUP: COMMANDING KNIGHT (P. Sai Kumar) 1, The Inheritor (Ashad Asbar) 2, Adbhut (Md. Ekram Alam) 3 and Nucleus (Mohit Singh) 4. Not run: Detective. Neck, 1-1/2 and 3. 1m 11. 40s. ₹22 (w), 10, 13 and 13 (p). SHP: 62, THP: 43, SHW: 17 and 25, FP: 149, Q: 102, Tanala: 348. Favourite: Commanding Knight.
Owners: M/s. G. Lakshmi Prasad & D.N. Kempegowda. Trainer: N. Rawal.
7. SOLITAIRE PLATE: IT'S MY LIFE (Ajay Kumar) 1, Chica Bonita (A. Imran Khan) 2, Track Blazer (Deepak Singh) 3 and My Way Or Highway (B. Nikhil) 4. 1, 2 and Neck. 1m 27. 71s. ₹102 (w), 19,17 and 23 (p). SHP: 39, THP: 61, SHW: 39 and 24 (p). FP: 925, Q: 367, Tanala: 7,125. Favourite: Canterbury.
Owner: Mr. Leeladhar Sharma. Trainer: N. Ravinder Singh.
Jackpot: 70%: ₹4,901 (67 tkts.), 30%: 122 (1,147 tkts.).
Treble: (i) 889 (43 tkts.), (ii) 533 (145 tkts.).
Mini Jackpot: (i) 2,887 (15 tkts.), (ii) 3,608 (21 tkts.).

Quintal finishes 10th in ARRC final round

Press Trust of India
BURIRAM (THAILAND)

India's Kavin Quintal of Honda Racing finished a creditable 10th in the final round of 2023 FIM Asia Road Racing Championship at the Chang International Circuit here.

Riding Asia Production 250cc class bike on Sunday, Quintal pushed his limits on the track to cross the chequered line in the 10th position with timing of 18:56.590s in the 2023 ARRC. Quintal's teammate Mohsin Paramban failed to finish Race 2. Honda Racing India has taken its tally to 33 points this season.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Laksh meets Ansh in the final
M.A. Laksh Chengappa entered the boys' under-17 singles final of the Yonex-Sunrise all-India sub-junior ranking badminton tournament with a 21-19, 21-16 victory over T.T. Gnana Dattu on Monday.

In the summit clash, Laksh will meet Ansh Negi, who overcame Prateek Koundilya 21-16, 14-21, 24-22.

Other results (under-17, semifinals):
Girls: Dianka Waldia bt Rishika Nandi 21-12, 21-18; Tanvi Reddy Andluri bt N.B. Adarshini Shri 16-21, 21-17, 21-8.

Syaamantak doubles the joy for Mount Joy CC
Syaamantak Anirudh (135) helped Mount Joy CC defeat Merchants (2) CC by 77 runs in the KSCA (Group I) under-14 inter-club tournament.
The scores:
Chintamani SA 146 in 45 overs (Soorya 27, M. Neeraj 42, Soumith Kongara 4/38, Aryaman Srivastava 3/40) bt Sangam CA 142 in 47.3 overs (Punith Lakshman Kumar 45, P. Jnana Prabhu 4/35).
Young Lions 342/4 in 50 overs (Neil Santosh Honnagudi 34, Abdul Reehan 64, M. Rohith 96 n.o., Brahmanya Theertha R. Kuber 110 n.o.) bt RV Engineering College 182/9 in 50 overs (P. Lithik Reddy 90, Sachith Shetty 30, A. Suraj 3/21).
Mount Joy 227 in 45.1 overs (Syaamantak Anirudh 135, Rishant Meti 37) bt Merchants (2) 150/9 in 50 overs (V. Vedanth Kumar 49, Atharv S. Deshpande 3/4).
Palace Orchard 169/7 in 50 overs (H.S. Amogh Athreyasa 61, S. Shahid Ahmed 45, Raghav Sanjay Vadher 27 n.o., Krushik Krishna 3/20) lost to Jawahar SC (1) 170/4 in 45 overs (Krushik Krishna 89 n.o., Samarth M. Kulkarni 26 n.o.).
Young Challenging Cricketers 132 in 41.3 overs (Dhruv Sharma 33, V.R. Lokesh 4/18, Divit Jain 3/15) lost to Bangalore Occasionals 135/3 in 31 overs (Sohum Joshi 38 n.o., Vidhan Loyalka 71 n.o.).
Dooravani Cricketers (1) 253/6 in 50 overs (A. Vishnu 44, Sai Teja Thokala 90 n.o., Shreyash S. Depavat 58) bt Jupiter CA 175 in 48.3 overs (Agastya Khashu 26, Harshith Kunchapu 28, Samarth Gautam Rayabagi 43, Shardul Ajit Joshi 27, Sai Teja Thokala 4/24, T. Dhyaan 3/28).

SHBHC, Kolar DHA register wins
SHBHC, Gadag defeated Adhiyamaan College of Engg 3-1 in the KSHA-BHA B-division hockey league championship here on Monday. In another match, Kolar DHA beat RBI 2-0.

Skalvi Astra SC, BMSC emerge champions
Skalvi Astra Sports Club and BMSC College emerged the men's and women's champions in the Bangalore City Ball Badminton Association Cup held here recently.

Kiwis seek a positive end to a long and draining season

NZ IN BANGLADESH

Agence France-Presse
DHAKA

New Zealand leg-spinner Ish Sodhi said his side hoped to finish its long season away from home on a high by beating Bangladesh in the upcoming second Test.

"It's been a really, really long time away," Sodhi told reporters in Dhaka. "It's been a really successful last six or so months for the team, but it can come with a lot of emotions".

Non-stop action
The Kiwis, who started their long season with a tour to Pakistan in April, have also played series in Britain, Bangladesh and the United Arab Emirates, before playing in the World Cup in India, a time Sodhi described as emotional "rollercoasters".

The Kiwis are trailing Bangladesh 0-1 in the two-Test series after their 150-run defeat in the opening Test in Sylhet.

The second Test in Dhaka begins on Wednesday.

Super motivated
"It'll be really nice to finish on a high," he said. "I think the boys are super motivated.

"Hopefully, we'll get some treats here before we leave, and then we can go and smell that beer. It's going to be beautiful New Zealand air pretty soon."

Sodhi said they had learned lessons they would use in the final match.

"I think the way Bangladesh played, they certainly outplayed us," he said.

"But, upon reflection, I think they gave us a blueprint on what is successful in these conditions, and hopefully we can apply that to this next Test match."

Rise and shine: Sodhi and New Zealand will look to finish on a high by winning the second Test against Bangladesh. AP